





## Dairy.

## Hints to Dairywomen.

Much has been said about keeping the stables warm for milk cows, and but little upon a point that is of equal, if not greater, importance—having an abundant supply of sunlight. The stables should always be on the south side, if possible, and with windows enough to make it as light as the south room of the house during the day. Not only will it be easier and more pleasant to do the work in them, but the cows will be in better health and produce more milk in such a place than in a dark room. One who used to measure his milk every day before it became the fashion to weigh each milking, said that when the cows were in the pasture he expected to find his twelve cows show a shrinkage of from three to four quarts less in two milkings after a cloudy, dull day than they yielded after a day of bright sunshine. Some of those who weigh their milk have found similar results. It will be a good time to have the windows put in this summer if they are not there now. Then keep them clean, whitewash the walls, cover the ceiling with roofing paper, to keep the dust from falling, and with light enough you may see some other cleaning up that ought to be done. If glass makes the stable too cold use double windows, or have curtains to put over the glass on cold nights. Even an old gunny bag will keep out much cold. A cow will nearly always give more milk when she is milked by a person who has been accustomed to milk her than she will when a stranger takes her in hand. Some cows are more nervous or sensitive about being handled by strangers than others, but those nervous cows are usually the best milk producers. Frequent changes of milk men are not desirable.

When the hired man uses a pitch fork or his boot on a cow, it is time to make a change. If he has worked ten hours in the hay field and then has a half dozen cows to milk after supper he may have a right to be tired and cross, but he ought not to kick the cow, which would have preferred that the milking should have been done earlier. We have never heard of a dairyman who began to weigh the milk from each cow as it was drawn, and kept a record of each day's yield, who did not find out that some of his cows were not producing enough in a year to pay for the food they ate, and in some cases such unprofitable cows were among those he thought to be his best ones. By disposing of such cows he soon saved enough to pay cost of scales and record. Weighing the milk also encourages the milker to get all he can each time. If one is found to shrink in her yield, the cause of it is looked for.

The more attention that is paid to breeding cows for the dairy, and to selecting the best cows and a bull of good breeding to raise calves from, the better will the cows become in a few generations. The more carefully this is done the farther will be the line of separation between the dairy cow and the beef cow. Those who breed for beef and feed for beef need not expect to raise good cows adapted to milk production.

The milk drawn in the morning is richer in butter fat than that drawn at night. This may be in part due to the fact that the cow waters her milk by what she drinks during the day. On the contrary, if grain is given but once a day it will do more good, produce more milk and stimulate milk production, if it is given at night at milking time, or after the milking has been done, than it will if given in the morning. It is more thoroughly digested and better assimilated into the system during the period of rest than during the day when she takes more exercise and drinks more water.

## Literature.

## JOSEPH JEFFERSON.

A delightful book to dip into now and then is Francis Wilson's "Joseph Jefferson: Reminiscences of a Fellow Player." Of the great comedian, whose name will be forever identified with the character of Rip Van Winkle, this generous-sized volume gives glimpses that are not to be found elsewhere. They are chiefly anecdotal, but they furnish an insight into the actor's gentle and almost childlike nature that neither the autobiography of Jefferson nor William Winter's scholarly life of him supplies so adequately.

Mr. Wilson says: "I had often been his auditor, but had never had him as one of my own, so far as I know, until November, 1890, at the old Globe Theatre, in Boston, where he commanded me to place a box at the disposal of himself, Mrs. Malaprop Drew and Sir Lucius O'Twinkle for a performance of 'The Otolith.' It was an anxious day for me, and I came on the stage with my voice full of quavers and my memory ready, as Aeschylus says, 'to coze out at the end of my fingers.' I gathered myself with an effort, and it was not long before I had the reassuring pleasure of seeing Mr. Jefferson give way to a hearty burst of laughter, which, but for the back of his chair, must have upset his equilibrium, while Mrs. Drew and Mr. Florence seemed to be greatly enjoying themselves. On the instant all his nervousness vanished and the performance proceeded to the end with confidence and spirit, Rip Van Winkle kissing his hand to me as the curtain fell."

Examples of the quaint and unforced wit and the genial humor of the player are given in abundance in these pages, where numerous indications of his wisdom and sanity in all the relations of life may also be found. His personality was, indeed, remarkable, and Mr. Wilson shows that he was a man to esteem for his many virtues and love for his charming self. His conversations as preserved so carefully by Mr. Wilson show the character of the comedian in varying aspects, and under many conditions, and will deserve to be permanently recorded. Here is a sample of Mr. Jefferson's pleasant outlook on life as set down by Mr. Wilson:

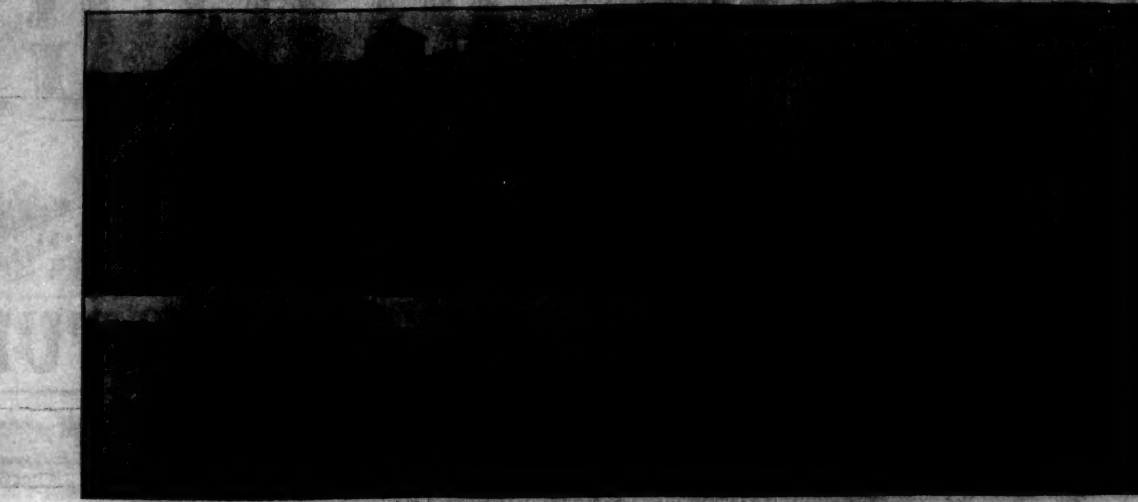
"I met him one day in a great toy store, and he confessed he visited the place three or four times a year, not only to make purchases, but also to see the children and hear their joyful expressions and explanations."

"I get a great deal of fun out of it," he said.

"You seem to have had a full measure of enjoyment in life, Sir Joseph," I said to him.

"Of course I have," he replied, "but I feel that all this is nothing compared to what is to come. This life is merely a rehearsal. I have had more fortune, more happiness than falls to the lot of most men, but they can ring down on me as soon as they please, only so as there is no delay, no lingering; let them give me a quick curtain. None of your slow fellows with long protracted red fire accompaniment."

"Ring down on you? Why, surely you are not tired of it all?" I ventured.



IN THE POTATO COUNTRY OF NORTHERN MAINE.

The University of Maine Special Farming Station stopping at Presque Isle. One of the station potato stores. Interior of exhibition car. Group of speakers, instructors and news correspondents.

"Oh, no, not at all, not at all," he replied quickly. "I should be content to go on at this rate for a great many years. I'd like to fish until I am ninety, and then I'd like to paint a little and set a little, but I want you to understand that I am not afraid of what is to come, and I do not wish to degenerate into the lean and slippered pantaloon. No, when the end comes, let it come quickly."

The reader gets very close to Joseph Jefferson in this book, and will often feel that he is actually in the presence of the actor, who had been for seventy years on the stage, beginning as a miniature Jim Crow, in imitation of T. D. Rice, the one-time famous interpreter of negro character. Mr. Wilson says of Jefferson:

"He knew he was credulous, and joked about it, delighting to tell stories that laughably illustrated his credulity. . . . Once when ex-President Cleveland, William H. Crane and he were preparing for a fishing expedition, an enthusiastic expounder of occult doctrines was holding forth."

"What do you say to that?" triumphantly exclaimed Jefferson, as some strange and inscrutable happening was recorded.

"Wonderful!" replied Mr. Cleveland.

"Thus encouraged, the advocate launched a flow of eloquence at the ex-President, who, checking him, said: 'Tell it to Jefferson, he'll believe anything.'"

"Sifted of all tins and lies, to do good was Jefferson's religion, and the whole world the place he selected, or perhaps the place for which he was especially selected to do it. He believed in the soul's immortality, and that he should see in another sphere those he loved and lost in this. He attributed the fact that in all his years of travel he had never been in a railway or a steamship accident, nor even seen one, to the special guidance of God, and 'with malice towards none, with charity for all,' he probably came nearer than most people in this material age to living what is called the Christian life."

Jefferson's work as a dramatic artist, his success as a lecturer and author are all dwelt upon happily by Mr. Wilson, who has, indeed, produced a volume that will be a permanent addition to the literature of the stage. Of a visit to Jefferson at Buxard's Bay, in the summer of 1894, Mr. Wilson records the following:

"I found some moments with him alone and we chatted over past and even prospective matters. As we passed through the garden on the way to the studio he pointed out some lath supports made by himself to engraft his tomato vines. 'The saddest thing in old age,' he said, 'is the absence of expectation. You no longer look forward to things. Now a garden is all expectation'—and here, the ridiculous presenting itself to his mind, he said swiftly with his characteristic smile, 'and you often get a lot you don't expect.' Then resuming the serious vein he continued: 'Therefore, I have become a gardener. My boy, when you are passed seventy, don't forget to cultivate a garden. It is all expectation, dear man.' He had been a horticulturist all his life long, and the flowers he tended were woven into wreaths of smiles and garlands of happiness for the multitude."

The volume has numerous full page illustrations from pictures in the possession of Mr. Wilson which add materially to the enjoyment of the interesting text. It is a book of constant inspiration and unending charm. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Price, \$2 net.)

## LUCY OF THE STARS.

This novel by Frederic Palmer is not like Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," a novel without a hero, for it has two heroes and two heroines, and the reader follows their experiences with unabated interest until he reluctantly bids them farewell after they have been indelibly impressed upon his mind. A more up-to-date novel dealing with England and America has not been published within present remembrance, and its incidents reflect the life of the present with a force and fullness that is fairly captivating. Politics, science and business as well as love are treated in this new story with a naturalness that has never been surpassed, and the characters are as life-like as they are engaging, and after their introduction become intimate acquaintances, so striking are they in their individuality. Lucy, the daughter of the old servant, Dr. Von Kar, is a young woman of an uncommon kind, fascinating in her way, and in her outlook on the world is sensible, courageous in disappointment and lovable at all times. Geraldine is also a truly feminine creature, spirited and intensely alive, while Arthur, the Earl of Carnation, the son of an American mother is a highly natural and impressive characterization, and John Frame, a politician of the better kind, is distinctly and truthfully a product of the United States. And the others in the book are no less entirely free from commonplace, though they are depicted with a realistic sincerity that is convincing. The whole novel is potent with a vitality that is apparently spontaneous, and dominated by a literary style that is borrowed from no predecessor. The story will be, no doubt, one of the most widely read novels of the season. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Price, \$1.50.)

## The Golden Chronicle.

Mary A. Livermore once said that of all the noble charities of Boston she knew of none more worthy of support than the New England Peabody Home for Crippled Children at Hyde Park. And she was right in her opinion, and was well fitted to speak conclusively through her varied experience in laboring to promote the prosperity and continuance of other philanthropic institutions.

The Peabody Home was organized in 1893,

when Mrs. H. M. Peabody could find no charity, the doors of which would open to receive a poor negro child with from feet. This fact she brought to the attention of Mrs. Edward B. Kellogg, and at the residence of Dr. Kellogg on Boylston street on June 7, 1894, fifteen ladies assembled and formed a corporation under the name of the New England Peabody Home for Crippled Children. Its avowed object was to provide a home and educate destitute crippled children to care for themselves. On the following May, in response to circulars sent out asking for aid, this devoted band of ladies were enabled to lease "Davis Farm" at Weston, and formally open the Home on June 2, 1895. It was decided that any person could become a member of the corporation by the payment of \$1 annually, an associate member by the payment of \$5, and an honorary member by the payment of \$10, while \$100 would entitle a person to a life membership.

The house at Weston was homelike, but it was soon found that with the increase in the number of children it was inadequate for its purpose, and so was a later location at Wellesley. A new building with ample modern accommodations was erected at Hyde Park on land generously given by Mr. Robert Bleakie, and in 1899 the home was removed to its present location on a sunny slope surrounded by a beautiful pine grove.

When it was dedicated, in 1903, Mr. Bleakie was among the speakers, and prophesied a great future for the Home because it was non-sectarian and appealed directly to the heart. At the same time, realizing that in the future the building would have to be enlarged, he made a gift of the balance of the land he owned upon the hill to the institution, thus giving it 375 feet on the street and securing for it the adjoining grove. In all he gave sixty-one thousand feet of land.

Addresses were also made on this occasion by the president, Mrs. E. A. Joelin, clergymen of various denominations, and Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, who said the enthusiasm of the crowded audience reminded her of the enthusiasm with which many women of Massachusetts went to the aid of the Government during the war.

"Having raised several thousand dollars," Mrs. Livermore continued, "we sent a petition to Washington for Government endorsement, and we got a reply that the Secretary of War did not care for our aid, and gave as one reason that women had not the ability to stick to any one thing a great length of time. He never made a greater mistake; the great body of women are doing just that thing, beginning every Monday morning on the same round of duties, and I have often wondered what women that secretary had associated with to have such an erroneous idea. He certainly did not know women like Mrs. Kellogg. Her persistence and your aid have done so much in a short time that I am simply astounded. Today you have \$5000 more and furniture valued at \$3000 more, and all got together by the big and small amounts given, the concerts and garden parties which have seemed so little in themselves in creating this beautiful home for the children."

This charity, it should be remembered, is not local, but is for all New England. Each of the States included in this geographical division have members on the board of managers, or are among the members of the society, though their homes are nearly all in or near Boston, and naturally the people from each State take a warm interest in the unfortunate children from the places of their own nativity.

The work of the New England Peabody Home for Crippled Children is thoroughly practical. It is appealing because of its practicality. It takes the little ones from the families of the destitute, and places them among pleasant surroundings, furnishes them with skilled surgical treatment, gives them moral, mental and manual training, and fits them to be self-supporting, thus relieving the State of their maintenance, fostering their self-respect, and inspiring them with a love of self-dependence.

Mrs. Celia M. Thurston, the matron of the Home, has a peculiar gift in the training of children, and from a long experience in this kind of work has developed her unusual natural ability to a remarkable extent. She alone successfully makes all under her charge practically useful, brings out the individuality of each child, and manifests her appreciation, accompanied by a reward, when improvement and diligence is shown in any effort.

This charity has been generally commended, but kind words and the applause of the public, though good and encouraging in their way, will not feed, clothe, educate and give crippled children appliances to relieve their afflictions. Therefore an appeal has been sent out which should receive prompt responses from the philanthropists who are so ready to give to other causes which are no more deserving of help than the New England Peabody Home for Crippled Children. The appeal, among other things, says: "If you are one of our regular subscribers, please do not feel that this is intended to hasten you, but send your subscription at your convenience."

This general appeal is inspired by the words of Dr. Robert W. Lovett at our recent annual meeting. He said our work was not a sentimental one, but a practical charity. "It is a shame," he said, "that it should be so handicapped for the want of funds, when, were it more widely known, the great work being done for crippled children, the infinitely greater work waiting to be done and only kept from being done by the lack of funds, the people of all New England would be ready to contribute the greatly depleted coffers." We have two greatly depleted coffers from causes now being administered which we shall not re-

ceive for a year. We want money now to tide us over the interim."

Amidst these who so warmly endorse the work are the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, D. D., the Rev. Edward Clark, D. D., the Rev. Carlisle P. Mills, D. D., the Rev. Philip S. Moxon, D. D., and the Rev. Leighton Parks, D. D., E. W. Cutting, M. D., and John H. McCollum, M. D.

Contributions may be sent to the treasurer, Mrs. Edward B. Kellogg, 1004 Boylston street. The other officers are Mrs. Herbert A. Joelin, president; Mrs. Albion S. Whitmore, secretary; Mr. Robert Bleakie, Dr. Albion S. Whitmore and Dr. Edward B. Kellogg, trustees. The Board of Directors includes: Mrs. Robert Bleakie, Mrs. E. C. Brown, Mrs. Charles E. Butterfield, Mrs. A. F. Clark, Miss Helen Temple Cook, Mrs. Emma Edgerly, Mrs. William H. Gray, Mrs. L. J. Harlow, Mrs. Roland O. Lamb, Mrs. Henry F. Leonard, Miss Jennie G. Mosley, Mrs. George B. Rice, Mrs. Frank H. Mudge, Miss Anna C. Ward, Mrs. Warren Ward.

The attending surgeons are: Robert W. Lovett, M. D., Robert Soutter, M. D., the attending physician, Dr. Henry R. Mitchell, and the consulting physicians, Abner Post, M. D., Edward B. Kellogg, M. D., Leon W. Mansur, M. D., John H. McCollum, M. D., Albion S. Whitmore, M. D., and Benjamin H. Codman, D. D. S.

In conclusion, we quote Mrs. Mary A. Livermore once more, who said in her kindly and sympathetic way: "If our friends could see the comfort and happiness of the helpless little ones, whose lives were simply hopeless endurance of suffering and hardship until admitted to the Home, I know your appeal for aid would meet with a generous response. There is no more pathetic sight than a sick and suffering child debarr'd from the innocent pleasures of childhood by physical anguish and deformity."

## Agricultural.

## Experiences with Alfalfa.

After several years of partial failure with alfalfa I have not lost hope. I have made a few plants grow luxuriantly, and why not more of them when I have learned the secret? At present the crop seems to be crowded out by other plants, and I have tried liming and inoculating with bacteria from Washington without much effect. Summer planting seems to promise best, and seed sown the last of July makes plants six inches high in four weeks.—H. Oakes, Hartford County, Ct.

I have planted alfalfa in June at the rate of twenty-four pounds to the acre, sowing it without any other crop. It was clipped twice during the summer and entered winter with a good growth and was protected with a light covering of stable manure. This summer some of the plants were over three feet high early in June when it was moved. It was moved again in July and a third time in August. Several kinds of soil are used but it seems to do best here on clay. Every time it is moved the alfalfa looks better. I do not use fertilizer or any other special treatment.—J. F. Zook, Milford County, Pa.

Our alfalfa cut three crops this year and seems to be the most profitable hay crop on my dairy farm. In this section it will not last more than three to five years, being gradually choked out by June grass. When turned under, alfalfa sod gives immense yields of potatoes. It is much better for yielding under than common clover. I sow thirty-five pounds of seed to the acre, the thick seed making the stalks to be fine and thick and better for hay.—D. C. Dean, Lenawee County, Mich.

## Seed Potatoes.

A short time before planting the potatoes should be removed to a building and spread out to give them an opportunity to start a good, vigorous sprout before planting. If not properly covered while they are buried, there is danger of the eyes being frozen enough to reduce the vitality without freezing the potato.

The soil fungus will remain in the ground from year to year, and if the ground is infested with the scab, or if the seed is affected, the seed should be treated with some preventive to insure a crop of clean potatoes. Corrosive sublimate will answer this purpose.

It is not expensive and requires very little labor to use it. Dissolve one ounce in ninety gallons of water and soak the seed ninety minutes. This should be done before cutting. The seed should be cut with one or two eyes to the piece, depending upon the size of the potato and the number of eyes. I prefer to plant large and medium-sized potatoes, and one eye piece from the stem end of large potatoes will make large pieces on most varieties. Nearest the seed and the pieces will be smaller and have more eyes. Where small potatoes are used for seed, either plant whole or cut the pieces a respectable size regardless of the number of eyes. Potatoes should be planted as soon after cutting as possible. It is not safe to cut a large quantity and pile them up, as they may heat and the seed be injured so that it will not produce a profitable crop. If small quantities are cut a few days before planting, put in bushel crates, set in a cool place and covered from the wind and sun, no damage will result. Medium-sized potatoes can be planted whole if desired, and some prefer that way, but it requires more seed to the acre. A large yield can

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be secured from a very small amount of seed by separating the eyes into two or three parts and planting in well prepared fertile soil; but this method will not produce as many potatoes to the space of ground occupied as where whole eyes are planted.—J. W. Cox, New Wilmington, Pa.

## Farming in Berkshire.

More farmers have been obliged to buy hay for stock than before in some years, and lots of quite old stuff have thus been cleaned out at prices to correspond, \$6 to \$8 per ton. But for the past ten days pastures are coming on fairly well and some have begun to turn cattle on them.

Roads in many sections up to a few weeks ago were almost impassable, but since the fair weather set in Superintendent Fowler has pushed repairs as fast as possible. Good farm help is scarce and high wages are demanded. The idea of farmers combining for mutual assistance to help one another over rough spots or out of occasional dilemmas liable to overtake any of us, is being considered. With the feeling of mutual good will and brotherhood that ought to grow and prevail, more ways and means could be found to do this than are just now, perhaps, apparent. It would tend to promote and encourage, as only a true brotherhood of common interests and hopes and aspirations can; in short, the cultivation of the soil in union with that of the mind and the heart.

James McLean in south part of town has lately made a \$3000 sale of white birch which will be sawed into lumber on his premises and sold to a piano manufacturer. The town voted no license this spring by so large a majority and so strong a feeling that it is thought the question has received a quietus that will last it a long term of years. Potatoes are \$1 and rather scarce; apples scarce; eggs, 20 to 25 cents; pork, \$8; butter, 25 to 30 cents. L. J. GARDNER, Williamstown, Mass.

Very few cattle have been turned out as yet, and those are fed at the barn alone. The lack of snow has left quite a lot of logs in the woods and ready for the mills that run by water; the steam mills have had a prosperous winter, the light snows helping the short hauls of logs. Hay is scarce, and brings from ten dollars to fifteen dollars per ton at the barn, according to quality. The mills have called for an extra quantity, and keep up the price. Eggs are sixteen cents per dozen at the stores, and have kept at that figure for some time, something unusual at this time of the year. Potatoes are seventy-five cents per bushel, and some holders talk of eighty cents.

Quite a number of colts are expected this spring and summer, several from a Morgan stallion owned by William Frontiers of Walpole. The stallion was brought on from the West, and is a handsome type of the Morgan breed, gentle and well broken. FRANK DEWING, Cheshire County, N. H.

The maple-sugar season was about an average one, but the quality was first-class.—Frank Dewing, Alstead Centre, N. H.

Since race suicide is so manifestly present in our own nation, I do not see but we will have to import our help.—William Follen, Penobscot County, Me.

**MAINE LAKES AND PONDS**  
ALMOST FREE FROM ICE  
Fishing Season Now Open in Lakes  
May 5 the ice left Grand Lake! At the first movement, an army of sportsmen congregated about the shores, waiting to try their luck at Walcottian sport; while a week before on April 25, Lake Umbagog announced her opening. Early on April 13 the ice had cleared in the big bay of Sebago Lake, and early salmon fishing commenced at Sandy Beach at the mouth of the Sebago river. Indications point to an early departure in the Maybrook; and Maybrook fishermen are seeking the name "No. 1" for their catch. In New Hampshire, Sebago and Umbagog have been furnishing game sport for almost a month, and the numerous trout, brook and stream trout of New England are being whipped and whipped again by enthusiastic sportsmen. The season has commenced; the big catches will be heralded with the advent of a little warmer weather, when the sport will be on its full. No fisherman wants to let a year pass by without at least one try at the sport of angling. The Boston & Maine Railroad furnishes the information; how to get what, to do; and where to get them; all combined in the "Fish and Game Country," a beautiful illustrated booklet of thirty pages contained in a de-lightfully colored cover. An interesting booklet, giving in condensed form the Fish and Game Laws, corrected up to date, of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Quebec, is also issued by this railroad. These two booklets will be mailed for a copy and money to any address by the Boston & Maine, Passenger Department, Boston, Mass.

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## Doultry.

## Scrub-Bred or Well-Bred Fowl.

There are some who speak of and think of all poultry as "scrub fowl" if they are not pure bred enough to be very nearly up to the points of form and feather as laid down in the poultry standard. It might be a good thing if they could induce the majority of poultry keepers to adopt this opinion and then lead them to think that the "scrub fowl" is unworthy of a place in any one's yards. But there are some pure-bred fowl that deserve to be classed as scrubs. They are but feeble chickens, from parents that have been poorly cared for. They may have been scantly fed or upon food that was too fattening to keep them healthy and vigorous. They may have been kept in houses and yards so unclean that they have not a breath of pure air at night, nor a bite of green food when out of doors. Or they may be in buildings which do not protect them from cold winds and rain when on the roost, or their life blood may be sucked away by vermin.

Fowls so kept will soon become the veriest scrubs though of the purest breed. There is no breed that can withstand such treatment without deteriorating rapidly, no matter how hardy they may be, and chickens bred from them will be worse than the parents. With feeble constitutions few of them will live to maturity, and even when put under better treatment they will grow slowly, mature late, and never will become first-class poultry for the table nor very profitable egg producers. Such a flock is not a flock in the true meaning of the term, and there is but one good thing about it—the flock will be likely to die off from their own inherited weakness in a few generations, or their owner will sell them at almost any price he can get because of their general worthlessness.

A flock of poultry, uniform in shape, size and feather, that has been well cared for as well as well bred, is a handsome sight on a farm, but a mixture of a dozen different breeds that have been under good care is much better than a breed that by neglect or carelessness has become only a caricature of what it ought to be.

It costs but a little more to start with a flock of one pure breed and keep them un-mixed with others, and it really is less trouble to take proper care of them from the beginning than it is to neglect them and then be bothered with sick fowl, dying chickens, filthy rooms, and roosts or nests covered with vermin, that are a constant trouble to the poultry, and frequently troublesome to those who have to take care of them.

## Good or Poor Matches.

If you must buy or borrow your broody hen care is necessary in doing so. See that the yard from which they come has no disease in it, otherwise you may repent. Observe, also, that the hen has two wings; in some cases the hen has a cut wing, and she cannot be expected to cover the dozen of eggs if her wing feathers are gone. Many chicks die in the shell by this means, and eggs which have been nearest the breast may be incubating splendidly for a time; but as the hen moves and turns the egg about daily, it follows that the eggs which are near the front get their turn of shuffling, and are at times on the outside, and should they happen to be on the side of the cut wing, a portion of the egg is exposed. This is not conducive to good hatching; on the contrary, hundreds of chicks during the course of development die in the shell, and the fowler, from whom the eggs were bought, is blamed for doctored eggs. I am not such a cynic as to think this is a common practice amongst fanciers.

It is nothing of the kind. The poultry fanciers strive to please the farmers. It does not pay to lose custom. Nothing but business ruin would result if such practices, supposed to exist, such as that of dipping the eggs in hot water, were continued. The usual custom with all breeders is to guarantee eight or ten eggs, and in many cases they even replace infertile eggs. I am sorry to have to say that many farmers will not take the trouble to return the infertile eggs. They more often accuse the vender of sharp practice, and write a scathing letter; it takes two to make a deal. Now, when the given time (twenty-one days) is up and only three or four chicks have made their exit, just drop a line to the breeder and send him back the unhatched eggs. He will treat you fairly. Remember that if your hen's wings were cut, or if you have used an old hen eight years old, with a low temperature, or a hen covered with vermin. All these items should be strictly observed. I have said the first year you must either buy or borrow. Do so at the right time, as early as possible, and not later than the first of May. You will then have early sitters the following season.

A good plan to make your pullets become broody is, after they have laid twenty-five to thirty eggs, to replace each egg you take away by putting a china egg in the nest. When she finds her nest too much for her, she is usually encouraged to remain on the nest overnight, and thus she becomes broody. I have succeeded by this means for many years, and have found that the old idea of sitting only the old experienced hen a fallacy.

The older the hen, the more reduced her temperature becomes. I have made tests, and have found that a hen seven and a half years old, which I had used as a brooder hen, lacked the necessary temperature—105°. I found by placing a thermometer under the wing that she only registered 104°—too low for successful hatching. On the other hand, I tried the pullet on the same evening (the eggs had been under both hens for five days) and the younger bird's temperature was a point above 105°. Great care is necessary in removing a pullet which you desire to sit. Do it at night. Do not venture to carry her in a bag, and to ride a couple of miles with her on a bicycle. Place her carefully in a basket, with some straw and some nest eggs. When she feels she has eggs in the more contented. Remove her in the dark, and very gently stroke or rub her breast. Then place her on the nest of eggs, or for a day or two on bad eggs to try her. Shut her out from the sight of other hens, and coax her off in a couple of days. Have a place of wire netting under her coop, and she will soon accustom herself to her new condition.—H. V. Hawkins.

## Neat Double Poultry House.

When the light weight breeds like Hamburgs, Leghorns, etc., are kept in small pens, a high wall is no certain protection against escape. The bare yard inside is too great a contrast to the fine pasturage in sight, and fowls which would not cross an ordinary picket fence when on wide range will sometimes fly a six-foot netting of a small run. The illustration shows a very

neat double coop and covered run suitable for two flocks of a dozen fowls each. Each yard is fifteen feet. To cover the top use three sixteen foot strips of netting of the four foot width, and running across both yards. With care in setting the posts and handling the netting the effect will be neat. The house part is of the simplest kind, a double shed of matched spruce or pine and paper roofing. For winter use board up the front and have a window near the ground for each room. Also cover the house inside and out with roofing paper. A house of this kind is good for pigeons, pheasants, etc. It was designed by F. Sedow of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., the well-known breeder of various kinds of feathered stock.

## Horticultural.

## How to Start Sweet Peas.

There are few annual plants in the flower garden that give as much pleasure for the cost and labor necessary to produce them as the sweet pea. To have them through a long season they should be sown in April, or as soon as the frost is out of the ground, as like the garden peas they are not easily discouraged by cold soil or by the spring rains. They will even live and grow well if a heavy frost or a few inches of snow fall upon them after they have come out of the ground. Yet they will do well if sown in May, and if they do not blossom as early by proper treatment they can be kept in bloom until frost kills them, and it may be that the blossom will be as abundant and a little more brilliant in color than they would be if sown earlier.

Make a trench at least six inches deep for them and about six inches wide. Put in an inch or more of well-rotted stable manure at the bottom if it is to be had; if not, scatter some good artificial fertilizer in the trench and mix it well with the soil. Now sow the peas, and do not be stingy about putting in seed. It may not all come up, and a thick row six inches wide will make more show and bloom more freely than a thin scattering row, as they shade the ground and are less liable to injury by hot and dry weather.

But the thick sowing is not the only remedy or preventive of that. After the seed is sown draw about one inch of soil over it and press it down well with the hoe or with the feet. Some soak the seed before planting to make it germinate more quickly, and it may be well in planting as late as May; others say soaking seed makes a weaker plant. It certainly does if they are soaked too long. After the vines are about three or four inches high draw in some of the earth that was taken out of the trench, not covering the leaves entirely. Continue to do this every week until the trench is full and the seed five or six inches below the surface. There is but little danger of their drying up at that depth if weeds are not left among them.

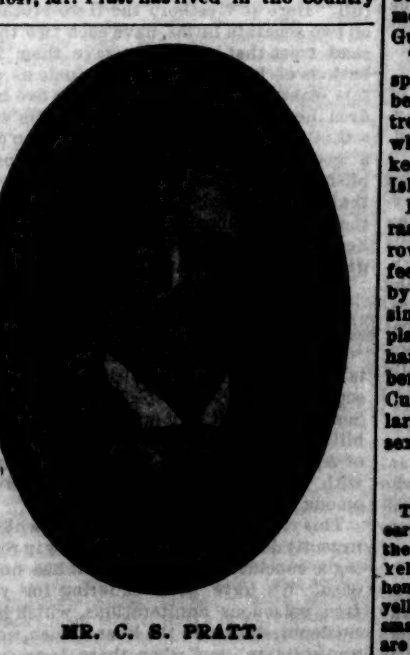
Now they will want something to climb on. Put stakes along the centre of the drill and on this put wire netting such as is used for bonny fences. Two-inch mesh is better than a finer mesh. If the ground is rich or heavily manured the wire should be six feet high, and the vines will climb upon both sides of it. In very dry weather the peas may have a watering occasionally to keep the soil from becoming too dry or they may have a mulch along the drill. Liberal watering twice a week is better than watering every day. Let the earth have a chance to get dry and stir it once in a while to prevent it from becoming sour. Soap-suds from the laundry is a good fertilizer for a flower garden.

If one has not the wire netting, or does not want to buy it, brush can be used as is done for the garden peas, but the wire netting is as cheap in a village as the pea brush would be, while it looks much neater, is less liable to blow or break down, and if put away after the peas are gone it will last many years. Frequent picking of the blossoms causes more free blooming, while after the seed has formed the vines cease to try to produce more.

## A Strawberry Expert.

A fruit grower and nurseryman well known to our readers and to those attending horticultural meetings is C. S. Pratt of Reading, Mass.

Although a city boy and born in Boston in 1847, Mr. Pratt has lived in the country



MR. C. S. PRATT.

nearly all his life and has never had any inclination for city conditions of living. He began the strawberry business in a small way at the age of twenty-two, setting out one-fifth of an acre and selling \$200 worth of fruit from that small area. The average price received that year was thirty cents per quart. Delighted with this success a larger field was started, and the business was gradually extended until in ten years there were fifteen acres of fruit.

Everything progressed well until 1880, when an untimely frost completely destroyed the crop of that year and well nigh offset the profits of the prosperous years which had preceded. But not at all disheartened, the business was resumed, and has been successfully continued. Besides fruit raising a specialty has been made of selling plants.

The popular Sample strawberry was introduced by Mr. Pratt and has taken a permanent place as a leading standard variety. Says Mr. Pratt: "If I never did anything more for the world, I did a good thing for the fruit growers when I introduced the Sample berry. It has done more for the berry growers than any other berry ever put out." At meetings of fruit growers Mr. Pratt's remarks are notable for common sense and for the accuracy of detail which come of long experience and vigorous thinking. He is strictly a business man.



OPEN FRONT POULTRY HOUSE.

With covered run. A good summer arrangement for the high flying breeds. Easily adapted for winter by use of curtain or board front.

trialist, impatient of pure show theory, but eager to get at the working facts; one of those men whose native talent and energy are capable of bringing out results of original and lasting value.

## Currants for Profit.

I have had a number of years experience in growing currants. In regard to soil, a rich, moist, cool soil gives the best results. Where the soil is very fertile, satisfactory returns can be had among orchard trees. Shade is afforded in this way, which is often beneficial, as there is a less liability to sun scald than when the bushes are planted in the open. This is especially true of red varieties.

The best results are obtained from wide planting, the distance apart depending on the variety. As a rule, reds may be planted closer than blacks. For the average plantation six x six or six x seven is advisable. It is safer to plant in the spring than in the fall, unless the soil is naturally well drained. If the land is low and wet and the plants have, and are found lying on the surface in the spring because they have not had time to become established before winter caused growth to cease, I prefer planting early in the spring, and when the soil is reasonably dry. I never plant trees or bushes of any kind in the mud.

In regard to pruning, my practice is to prune in the spring, although I do not object to fall pruning if there is time. March is the best month. If red currants I thin out the old wood, and cut back the strong, young shoots, leaving sufficient cane to give a good crop. All wood over three years old should be removed, and if the bushes are making vigorous growth, the three-year-old wood may go, too. Red currants bear on two-year-old wood, but the blacks do not. They are more inclined to bear on wood of the previous year's growth. For this reason they are not cut back so closely.

I prefer the bush form to the tree form, especially where the currant borer is found, because in the tree form, if the borer attacks the stem, the whole bush is lost. I have divided the varieties I have tested into three classes, desirable, doubtful and undesirable. I find, however, that the varieties placed under these three headings differ greatly from year to year. Among the red currants there are two distinct classes of plants, one having a dark foliage and the other a much lighter foliage. The lighter greens are, I find, the more rugged.

In red currants I would recommend the following: Cherry, Wilder, Old Victoria, Prince Albert, North Star, Jay's Prolific. In black varieties: Naples, Saunders, Lee's Prolific and Collin's Prolific. Among the white varieties White Grape is productive, but White Imperial stands first on the list for quality. Among the doubtful varieties I would class Champion, New Victoria, Pomona, Red Cross. In undesirable varieties I include Belle of St. Giles as being the least productive of any of the red currants, also Brandy, which is small and unproductive. Ruby Castle may, also, be classed as undesirable, being too small in the fruit, as are also Red Dutch and Versailles.

Freeman, Ont.

## Among the Orchardists.

The home apple orchard ought to include twenty-five varieties, so that fruit may be had for the year through; but for a commercial orchard more varieties are needed. Among the best varieties are: Prof. A. G. Guiley, Storrs, Ct.

Thorough pruning is necessary. Early spring is a good time to prune. Care should be taken to prune without injury to the trees. The wounds should be coated with whitewash or some other preparation to keep out the air.—T. L. Kinney, Grand Isle County, Vt.

Most people make the mistake of planting raspberries too closely. If planted in close rows they should not be closer than 7½ feet; this system admits of better culture by horse power, at less cost. But where a single row only is wanted for family use, plants may be set three feet apart. The hardy varieties, or nearly so, are the Cuthbert, Marlboro and Turner; of these the Cuthbert is the most vigorous and more largely planted.—Mary E. Cutler, Middlesex County, Mass.

## GOOD ONIONS.

The Red Wethers field onion is one of the best early hardy varieties; the Yellow Strawberry, the Yellow Globe Danvers and the New York Yellow Globe are popular varieties either for home use or for market. The skin is a bright yellow, medium size, made quick growth, have small necks and of mild flavor. These varieties are grown very largely to gather when half grown to bunch for market and for early summer sales of dry onions. The white silver skin, the white pearl and the white giant are mostly grown for family use and for selling to the packing houses. These varieties are best heavy and should not be planted before the ground is dry and warm. The Australian Yellow and Brown Globe are new varieties of extra merit; the bulbs are globe shaped, with a light brown skin, solid, heavy, and of mild flavor and good keeper.

## COLLARS AND SADDLE GALLS.

Galls on horses are due to several causes, but frequently to mites and harness that press unevenly on the body. The collar should fit the horse perfectly, and it cannot be too good. A loose girth to a saddle may allow it to chafe. When a gall is noticed there is something wrong with the saddle or harness, and no remedy will be available until the cause of the gall is removed. An examination of the harness should be made whenever the horse is brought up from work at night, and it should be kept in good condition at the horse will suffer.

## THE SORROWER.

After slumbering over or less quietly for a few years, the rustic tale that the bees drop from each cell of honey a small drop of poison from the sting before sealing up the cell, using the sting as a broom to sweep the wax, seems to have started anew its round of the public press. To any who have read in storybooks of the fatal, deadly wonder what immediate there may be for the year, it may be said on the authority of a bee expert that it is all a work of imagination, the originator apparently counting on the fact that, with better editing a portion of the story, some of the papers that give it currency

will bother themselves with a contradiction, and the very thing that can be done is patiently to allow it to run its course and let the cat only to be resurrected seven years later by some penny-linger who has nothing else sensational on hand.

## TWO DAIRYING DELUSIONS.

The objection has been made that if all cows were brought up to a high standard of production it would bring down the price of the products, said W. D. Board of Wisconsin at the late Illinois State Farmers Institute. Keeping poor, unprofitable cows for the purpose of holding up prices of butter and milk is hard on the consumer. The surplus of dairy products comes from cows that bring no profit to their owners. Eliminate the poor cows and there will be no surplus. Too many farmers keep their eyes on the market. They cannot afford the price one dollar or fifteen cents for milk, only to be disappointed. Lots of money is to be made by a wise administration of the farm and of the business. This is the only end that is wholly within our control. Right here reigns supreme the man behind the cow.

## IT PAYS TO CAPONIZE.

A gain of four pounds per head in weight and one cent per pound in price is quite worth while when we remember that it can be done on about the same amount of feed. It is wise to caponize every cockerel not wanted for breeding. There is very little pain caused by the operation if done at the right time—less pain than is often endured by cockerels in their fight with one another. But the writer will never forget the cold chill it caused him to witness the bungling attempts of some of the pupils at a poultry school in the city of Washington, to caponize a cockerel without first working on dead birds.

## FOREIGN POTATOES.

The high prices that have prevailed for potatoes the past season served to attract them to us from other countries even with the handicap of the duty to be paid on them. In seven months we imported 1,681,177 bushels, against 75,338 bushels in same part of 1904-1905, and 119,000 bushels in 1903-1904.

## THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN.

May is at hand anxious to outdo her predecessor with a wondrous wealth of bloom. Magnolias, the early crocoked Norway apple, larches, plums and cherries in great variety tint the landscape with their wealth of bloom. Flowering shrubs show marvelous shades of crimson, pink and white. Sheltered snowdrops of England, Dutch crocuses, the white lily of the valley, and the early tulips are in full bloom, and toward the end of the month there is great variety in their prolific abundance of showy white, subtly fragrant flowers give promise of a showy autumn crop of fruit. The shrubs, a wonderful show in the garden, are: Spiraea, Pearl Bush, Jew's Mallow, Carolina Allspice or Calycanthus, Golden Currants, Bush Honeysuckle, Rose Acacia, Himalayan Cotonestree, Persian Lilac and Japanese Camellia, etc. With the gorgeous-hued hybrid Anemones to direct attention from the wildings, but the May flower, the flower and the Rhodora hold their own for their harmonious beauty. Bulbs are in their heyday of beauty. Tulips in their marvelous coloring, the white Frillaria, the white lily of the valley, the Stars of Bethlehem and Dogtooth Violet. Narcissus, squills and Wake Robin are still with us. Of herbs, Silvery Yarrow, Windflowers, Columbinas, Thrifts, Delais of England, Cornish Primroses, Blue Mass-drakes, Solomon's Seal, Panicle and Primula, Primulas and Barrenwort, Lily of the Valley, Day Lilies, Crocuses, Dwarf Iris and Crocuses. Foliage shrubs every portion of the grounds.

MAKING BEE SYRUP.—C. O. S., Chittenden County, Vt.: Mix granulated sugar and cold water equal parts, by measure, and stir until it is all dissolved. If the syrup is to be made in any quantity, pour the sugar and water into a large kettle, and stir with a long wooden spoon. The mixture will be very thick, and the sugar will be in lumps. It is better to use a small quantity of water, and the mixture will be thinner. It is better to use a small quantity of water, and the mixture will be thinner. It is better to use a small quantity of water, and the mixture will be thinner.

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**PERMANENT MEADOWS** should have an annual dressing of 500 pounds per acre of a fertilizer containing eleven per cent. POTASH and ten per cent. available phosphoric acid.

This will gradually force out sour grasses and mosses from the meadows, and bring good grasses and clovers; thus increasing the quality as well as the quantity of the hay.

Our practical book, "Farmer's Guide," gives valuable facts for every sort of crop-raising. It is one of a number of books on successful fertilization which we send on request, free of any cost or obligation, to any farmer who will write us for them.

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## THINGS WORTH KNOWING

If you are going to buy A MANURE SPREADER



No machine within his reach is capable of doing so much for the farmer as the modern manure spreader. But then it must be a machine with features of economy and efficiency. The I. H. C. Manure Spreader has such features. Only a man of experience knows that a spreader will work perfectly when the load is level. The I. H. C. Spreader is the only spreader with a vibrating roller in front of the beater cylinder which levels every load and any load of manure.

Instantly while in motion to spread three to thirty loads per acre. Large, solid, steel axles front and rear—front wheels cut under—turn very short. Steel wheels—no rutting or driving out. Broad faced tires with turned in flange to keep out dirt, mud, etc. Lightest and strongest. Provided with traction lugs on rear wheels—will work perfectly on hard, frozen or wet ground. Made in various sizes to suit all requirements. The I. H. C. spreader will distribute perfectly manure of all kinds—wet, dry, mixed, straw, fall of stalks, frozen cake, etc. It may be equipped with special features: distributing broadcast, or in drills, fine manure, commercial fertilizers, lime, ashes, salt, cotton seed hulls, and plaster, etc. Remember what we have told you—it is the manure spreader with special features which all make for success. Go to the International Local Agent and look it over, get and read the catalogue or write for further information. It will pay.

International Harvester Company of America, (Incorporated) Chicago, Illinois, U. S. A.

work, do not penetrate into it. Have it well ventilated every day, and if this can be done only by the windows open, then in the morning when the outside air is fresh and pure. Store no decaying vegetables in the cellar under it if there is one. If one were building a new dairy room it would be better to have a concrete floor and no cellar under it. Have the floor laid so that it can be flushed with water every day and the water run off through a trap so that no odors can come back into the room. Of course, the room must not be used for any other purpose, and all the utensils used in it must be kept scrupulously clean.

Connecticut Farm Notes. The weather is still pretty cold for the last of April, and farm work has not been pushed very hard as yet, but it has been an excellent time to do the team work—hauling manure, plowing, etc. And farmers who have taken the opportunity to do this work well have the floor laid so that it can be flushed with water every day and the water run off through a trap so that no odors can come back into the room. Of course, the room must not be used for any other purpose, and all the utensils used in it must be kept scrupulously clean.

The repair of highways will commence soon. The rains of the early spring have, as a whole, been in many places, but, as a whole, they are in no worse condition than the average. Fruit trees are putting forth their buds, and the prospect for a good fruit crop is fair for so early in the season. Nearly, if not quite, all the last year's apple crop has been disposed of at very satisfactory prices. Anything that was an apple want, and the poorest stock sold for as much the past season as is often realized from the sale of the best quality.

Figures are not very plenty in this section, and prices are correspondingly high, selling readily at \$4 a bushel, and six weeks ago eggs are selling at from eighteen to twenty cents per dozen. Hay is worth from \$13 to \$15 per ton at the barn. J. P. L. Columbia, Ct.

Wages have gone beyond par and farmers are getting more machinery to do the work, and will then be able to dispose with more ease help.—J. H. M., Chittenden County, Vt.

Lack of co-operation is one of the farmer's failings.—H. G. S., Chesterfield, N. H.

You cannot get a girl for domestic service on the farm for love or money.—I. N. R., Carroll County, N. H.

Good Hens are Good. That is the brief, but significant comment made in a recent testimonial about Kendall's Spavin Cure. The writer of it put much in little. He expressed no new ideas; he did not concern himself with the why, the how, or the why, but he put in expressive form the great fact that is testified to by so many thousands of people, namely: That Kendall's Spavin Cure is the most reliable remedy for the commonest ailment of horses.

The common ailment of horses are not many. But while few, they are able to come at any time. The best kept horses and the ones with the least care are alike subject to these common ailments, among which might be mentioned lameness, ringbone, lameness, splints and curbs. It is a happy circumstance that these ailments are all removable, no matter in what country, region or variation in the treatment. And it is also a happy circumstance for horse owners that they may have always at hand so inexpensive and so dependable a remedy for fast these characteristic ailments as Kendall's Spavin Cure. From the most stubborn cases yield to it. It is worthy of note that every one who has ever used it commands it. At any rate, we have yet to hear of a case in all the years Kendall's Spavin Cure has been in use who will not say that it is all it is represented to be. It is to be had at any drug store, and we certainly think horse owners who do not have it always at hand, ready for immediate use, are at any emergency that may occur, are not conducting their own best interests.

## BRONZE TURKEYS

## AND BARRED COCKERELS

Turkeys bred from 15-16 hens and 4-5 toms; also have 100 Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels that are ready to color and large broods. Prices: Turkey, \$10; hen, \$5; cock, \$6; each, \$20; each, \$25; each, \$30; each, \$35; each, \$40; each, \$45; each, \$50; each, \$55; each, \$60; each, \$65; each, \$70; each, \$75; each, \$80; each, \$85; each, \$90; each, \$95; each, \$100; each, \$105; each, \$110; each, \$115; each, \$120; each, \$125; each, \$130; each, \$135; each, \$140; each, \$145; each, \$150; each, \$155; each, \$160; each, \$165; each, \$170; each, \$175; each, \$180; each, \$185; each, \$190; each, \$195; each, \$200; each, \$205; each, \$210; each, \$215; each, \$220; each, \$225; each, \$230; each, \$235; each, \$240; each, \$245; each, \$250; each, \$255; each, \$260; each, \$265; each, \$270; each, \$275; each, \$280; each, \$285; each, \$290; each, \$295; each, \$300; each, \$305; each, \$310; each, \$315; each, \$320; each, \$325; each, \$330; each, \$335; each, \$340; each, \$345; each, \$350; each, \$355; each, \$360; each, \$365; each, \$370; each, \$375; each, \$380; each, \$385; each, \$390; each, \$395; each, \$400; each, \$405; each, \$410; each, \$415; each, \$420; each, \$425; each, \$430; each, \$435; each, \$440; each, \$445; each, \$450; each, \$455; each, \$460; each, \$465; each, \$470; each, \$475; each, \$480; each, \$485; each, \$490; each, \$495; each, \$500; each, \$505; each, \$510; each, \$515; each, \$520; each, \$525; each, \$530; each, \$535; each, \$540; each, \$545; each, \$550; each, \$555; each, \$560; each, \$565; each, \$570; each, \$575; each, \$580; each, \$585; each, \$590; each, \$595; each, \$600; each, \$605; each, \$610; each, \$615; each, \$620; each, \$625; each, \$630; each, \$635; each, \$640; each, \$645; each, \$650; each, \$655; each, \$660; each, \$665; each, \$670; each, \$675; each, \$680; each, \$685; each, \$690; each, \$695; each, \$700; each, \$705; each, \$710; each, \$715; each, \$720; each, \$725; each, \$730; each, \$735; each, \$740; each, \$745; each, \$750; each, \$755; each, \$760; each, \$765; each, \$770; each, \$775; each, \$780; each, \$785; each, \$790; each, \$795; each, \$800; each, \$805; each, \$810; each, \$815; each, \$820; each, \$825; each, \$830; each, \$835; each, \$840; each, \$845; each, \$850; each, \$855; each, \$860; each, \$865; each, \$870; each, \$875; each, \$880; each, \$885; each, \$890; each, \$895; each, \$900; each, \$905; each, \$910; each, \$915; each, \$920; each, \$925; each, \$930; each, \$935; each, \$940; each, \$945; each, \$950; each, \$955; each, \$960; each, \$965; each, \$970; each, \$975; each, \$980; each, \$985; each, \$990; each, \$995; each, \$1000; each, \$1005; each, \$1010; each, \$1015; each, \$1020; each, \$1025; each, \$1030; each, \$1035; each, \$1040; each, \$1045; each, \$1050; each, \$1055; each, \$1060; each, \$1065; each, \$1070; each, \$1075; each, \$1080; each, \$1085; each, \$1090; each, \$1095; each, \$1100; each, \$1105; each, \$1110; each, \$1115; each, \$1120; each, \$1125; each, \$1130; each, \$1135; each, \$1140; each, \$1145; each, \$1150; each, \$1155; each, \$1160; each, \$1165; each, \$1170; each, \$1175; each, \$1180; each, \$1185; each, \$1190; each, \$1195; each, \$1200; each, \$1205; each, \$1210; each, \$1215; each, \$1220; each, \$1225; each, \$1230; each, \$1235; each, \$1240; each, \$1245; each, \$1250; each, \$1255; each, \$1260; each, \$1265; each, \$1270; each, \$1275; each, \$1280; each, \$1285; each, \$1290; each, \$1295; each, \$1300; each, \$1305; each, \$1310; each, \$1315; each, \$1320; each, \$1325; each, \$1330; each, \$1335; each, \$1340; each, \$1345; each, \$1350; each, \$1355; each, \$1360; each, \$1365; each, \$1370; each, \$1375; each, \$1380; each, \$1385; each, \$1390; each, \$1395; each, \$1400; each, \$1405; each, \$1410; each, \$1415; each, \$1420; each, \$1425; each, \$1430; each, \$1435; each, \$1440; each, \$1445; each, \$1450; each, \$1455; each, \$1460; each, \$1465; each, \$1470; each, \$1475; each, \$1480; each, \$1485; each, \$1490; each, \$1495; each, \$1500; each, \$1505; each, \$1510; each, \$1515; each, \$1520; each, \$1525; each, \$1530; each, \$1535; each, \$1540; each, \$1545; each, \$1550; each, \$1555; each, \$1560; each, \$1565; each, \$1570; each, \$1575; each, \$1580; each, \$1585; each, \$1590; each, \$1595; each, \$1600; each, \$1605; each, \$1610; each, \$1615; each, \$1620; each



## MASSACHUSETTS FLOUGHMAN

TELEPHONE NO. 3791 MAIN.

President Roosevelt is not of a trusting nature, Mr. Rockefeller et al.

They would, no doubt, like to throw oil upon the troubled President.

The Czar has one merit at least. He knows how to make short addresses.

A Canon at seventy may be as effective as a speaker as one of later creation.

May has been unusually dry this year, though she was always something of a coquette.

If there were no Garfield, Standard Oil might keep on in its smooth and prosperous ways.

John Mitchell will always be a striking figure in our history because he was able to strike down a strike.

The army and navy forever, but not three cheers for Funston and Hobson as Presidential candidates.

One of our multi-millionaires is looking up his ancestry. He will, no doubt, find many Rockefeller among them.

Paddle your own canoe, gentlemen, but not on our drinking water, says Governor Gild in effect in his sensible veto.

Quite appropriately the heavy swells of London are carrying iron canes. Perhaps this is the only way they can strike over.

Now that coal has come down we may relight the furnace fires and keep warm during the remainder of the genial month of May.

They are to have numerous steel buildings in San Francisco. This will be all right if it does not have steel city governments.

It is to be hoped that in the Douma the public men of Russia will do more for the people of that country than has been done in the past.

Some of the would-be aristocrats believe that automobilism is getting low; they propose to rise above the vulgar herd by taking to ballooning.

Gorky seems to have thought that this was a go-as-you-please country. It is a little free and easy in divorce matters, but it must draw the line somewhere.

The Red Man, when he hears one of Dowie's conversion sermons, will probably want to go back to his wigwam, like Metamora, and forego the pleasure of going to heaven with Elijah.

Now, if we lived in the age of the Bible patriarchs, Uncle Joe Cannon might accept a nomination for the Presidency of these United States. Compared with old Methuselah, he is quite a youngster.

They keep on improving the public schools, and yet the old boys think that these institutions are not as practically effective as when the three R's occupied the front row and there was more matter and less art.

If the Democrats nominate Hobson for President, the value of the kiss may be fully demonstrated. Sherman did not want to ride into the White House upon it, but other people are not as modest as was the man who marched from Atlanta to the sea.

It is only a step from the State House to the Court House, and yet the members of the General Court would rather spend its time at the former place, especially on Friday, when some of them want to get home to their "constituents," as Jefferson Scattergood might say.

Lucky in politics but unlucky in love, says Count Boni de Castellane in all probability. Perhaps a French government servant may shine more brilliantly than he did as the husband of an American heiress, whose father was as good as Gould, though he was something of a Jay.

Some of the Down East farmers are finding it cheaper to use oxen for much of the heavy plowing and teaming. The substitution does not look like a step forward, but what does it matter so long as the work costs less money? With a good pair of horses, worth \$400 to \$600 there is something to be said for the lower priced animal whose weakness, even, is a virtue in some kinds of work.

The Danish farmers produced during the past year \$6,000,000 worth of eggs for export, while the butter production for sale purposes amounted to \$40,000,000. The whole of the little country is like one co-operative organization for the production and sale of farm products. The whole business is reduced to a standard and every energy devoted to maintaining the national reputation in foreign markets. The result is that no country in the world, in proportion to its area and population, has made such progress in the export business of farm products.

The recent gift to the Connecticut Agricultural College is proving something of a white elephant to the trustees. The conditions attached to the bequest are such that the college can hardly establish a branch at such a distance from the main establishment without a greater expense than they feel justified in incurring. Some way will, no doubt, be found to settle this question, but the difficulty is an object lesson of the way in which gifts should not be made. In all cases the conditions are sure to change, and restrictions which may be all right at the time of making the gift soon become liable to destroy or lessen its value in later years. Gifts to agricultural colleges should be gifts outright, trusting to the judgment of the trustees for the best way to handle the property.

Poultry breeders assert that they have more than the usual amount of trouble this year from customers who fail to get a good hatch from the eggs purchased. The general reason seems to be that on account of the mild winter hens laid quite freely before the breeding season began and thus somewhat lowered their general vitality. Then at the time when eggs are saved for setting in the last part of March and April there

was snow on the ground, and eggs would not get the exercise and insect food usually at hand in that season. But these influences should avoid forcing egg production in winter to that end, lessening the amount of meat food, while during the egg shipping season animal food should be quite freely supplied, and the breeding stock given as wide range as possible with a substitute for green food if the season is backward. Successful poultry keeping requires adaptation of methods to the season and conditions. The owner who does not care enough for his poultry to think these matters out and follow his conclusions should get out of the poultry business.

In the Middle West, where corn is the great staple, the farm institute trains are sometimes devoted wholly to that crop. Corn culture is becoming an exact science, including an approved routine of methods in selection of seeds, choosing varieties, testing seed, cultivating and handling the grain. The exhibit car of the farming train is filled with all kinds of apparatus relating to this single crop, and the exhibit feature is the part of the work which seems to be accomplishing results rather than the addresses which are given at the same time. The whole institute system seems to be working more and more into the exhibit system with explanations helped out by models, implements, charts, pictures, etc. The plan in some of the Western States is to run these trains to all the farm institutes possible, the car being attached to other trains and shifted from station to station as needed, the car being wholly devoted to some given phase of some one problem illustrating this particular matter very thoroughly. Very likely in the end this thoroughness in some one particular will accomplish more in some localities than to attempt to teach the whole science of farming at a single meeting.

The address of Mr. James J. Storrow, chairman of the Boston School Board, on Thursday evening before the Roseland High School Association was timely and sensible. His subject was "The Co-operation of the Home and the Schools." He handled it in a masterly manner, and after a historical sketch of the founding of public schools he passed to his main theme, saying, in the course of his remarks, that the teachers should visit the homes and the parents should visit the schools. This was a judicious piece of advice, for both could, no doubt, learn much from each other that would lead to the best results in the training of children. Mr. Storrow also wisely recommended the establishing of special classes for troublesome boys, where the ablest and most sympathetic teachers might be employed to secure the boys' redemption from evil ways, and where youth could be stimulated to overcome temptation. Through this method he believed that the parental schools might lose half their inmates. He was also in favor of a juvenile court, where the cases against young offenders might meet with special treatment in a reformatory direction. Altogether, Mr. Storrow's remarks showed that he was well grounded in the right ideas concerning moral and mental education.

To those who have been hoping for great things from Congress the past year it is discouraging to note the enormous difficulty which is met with by the most desirable measures and those which are favored by nine out of ten of the average citizens. Such as these are the parcels post measure, the free alcohol bill and the anti-free seed movement. It does look to the reader of newspaper reports as if the interests of the few were being allowed to weigh far too much against the wishes of the people at large. How could there be any reasonable opposition, for instance, to the free alcohol bill, except by those who fear competition with kerosene, and why should any one object to the parcels post, except the express companies and perhaps the rural mail carriers? As for the free seed business, hardly anybody dares defend it openly, but when it comes to voting the Congressmen quietly favor it, simply because it furnishes them with a cheap little bribe for their farmer friends. The agricultural press opposes this measure almost unanimously, but the friends of free seed have gone so far as to accuse the agricultural papers of a kind of conspiracy along this line. The bottom fact of this free distribution seems to be that it is a kind of cheap graft on the part of the man who receives the seeds, since he accepts from the Government materials to which he has no right or claim, and which it is really improper for him to accept, while, on the other hand, the Congressmen carries favor by the distribution of such material. It seems that this objection is sufficient without mentioning the slipshod method by which the selection and distribution are managed, the unfair competition with seeds men and other objections. By opposing quick measures, which are demanded by the people, especially by those who live in the country districts, Congress affords some basis for the suspicion that public welfare is not always the first consideration in law-making.

## Stay East, Young Farmer.

Only a small part of the land of the Aroostook region is in cultivation. If there are any young men nowadays who have the pioneer spirit there is no need to go to the remote West. It is easier to go East and grow up with the country, as promising a country as can be found, and close to the best markets. One may enter a sleeping car in Boston in the evening and take breakfast next morning in Aroostook County. It is several hundred miles away to be sure, but travel back and forth is much easier than for the emigrant who moves to western Canada, and the chances for success are certainly as good.

The man who starts up there without much capital will have a rough time for a while and must do some very hard work, just the same as he would in any other new country. The climate is about the same as that of the rest of New England, although, of course, the farther north one goes the longer the winters. At the present time there is snow on the hills and in sheltered spots in the woods. Usually, however, planting is well under way the first of this month. The summer is bright, pleasant and bracing, a delightful season all through, and nearly as long as in Massachusetts. It is a little cool for corn, but potatoes, grain and grass flourish in perfection.

All through the county the new and the old are side by side. A few minutes walk from a smoky, thoroughly cultivated, immensely productive farm will often bring one to a farm in the making where the land is covered with stumps, swampy places and the like. A rough cart road leads to the place where the buildings are being erected. The house seems to give precedence to the barn, the farmer valuing that, while they are somewhat with regard to

their own comfort for the first few years, it will be necessary to provide good housing for their crops. Accordingly a good barn goes up, and perhaps almost any kind of house that will serve for a while. Later, if the farmer is successful, a first-class modern house will go up with all the improvements of a suburban residence. It is not often that the extremes of farm progress are seen side by side in this part of the country, the prosperous, wealthy farmer with a farm equipped thoroughly up to date, and a house with all the comforts that money can buy, and a good-sized bank account, while half a mile away is the pioneer, falling trees, digging and burning stumps, grubbing out roots, putting up his cheap shanty and planting his first crop. There is every reason to believe that the pioneer farmer will finally be as valuable as the other, and the back road among the stumps will become Easy street for the pioneer and his children.

As for the winter, it is, of course, a little more severe here than anywhere else in the north, and the young farmer would have to make the best of it for a while. If properly rewarded his efforts, as it has the older settlers, the time would come when, if he chose, he could close operations in late fall, put his cow or two and poultry with neighbors, and go South or to some city for the winter. The expense of this migration would not be much of an item to a man who has cleared several thousand dollars a year from his crop. Almost any fairly successful farmer expects to make at least \$2000 a year, and it is quite possible that he can afford to spend several hundred dollars for an outing in winter. As an actual fact of course, even the prosperous farmers do not, as a rule, leave the country in the winter. They are used to it and find enough to keep them busy and contented.

There is a good chance for farmers in northern Maine, but, after all, it may be doubted whether the specialization and the same hustling spirit of enterprise would not produce as good results in some other parts of the Northeast. There are stories of former Aroostook farmers who have sold their land at fancy prices, bought good farms elsewhere at one-third the price, but much nearer the large markets, and who have raised just as many potatoes and made more money in the new location. In regions adjoining the Connecticut valley, for instance, there are soils of medium loam, rolling, well drained and free from large stones, and where all kinds of potato machinery may be used. These lands, with buildings included, may be bought for one quarter the price of the best Aroostook farms, and could be made equally productive, while the potatoes could be sold directly to dealers in nearby cities without the drawback of thirty to forty cents per barrel for freight and charges as suffered by the Aroostook farmers. The farms in the great potato country are, no doubt, worth all that is asked for them. Land that will pay for itself with three or four crops is no dear at the price, and a lot of \$10 to \$20 per acre is not excessive. But the point is, the lands are equally fertile and workable, by comparison, ridiculously low priced in some other parts of the Northeast. There is money and success for young men in developing all these opportunities.

## Electric Railroads.

The Electric Railroad bill now before the Massachusetts Legislature is a measure in which the farmers all over the State are deeply interested. When the bill becomes a law electric railroads may be built which will have the privilege of carrying express and light freight. These lines will for the most part run over private rights of way, and the farms lying along the route of one of these roads will be largely enhanced in value. The grangers are keenly alive to the benefits that will flow from the passage of this act, and they are earnestly giving their various representatives to give the measure their unqualified support and assistance. As a preliminary granger and all other things, in fact, about everything they want. Some of them close up late in the season and go South or to California. Last fall twenty or thirty went to California. They go in the fall and come back in the spring. After the crop is marketed the farmers go to town with big rolls of money and trade freely at the stores. The whole town lives on potatoes. The new woolen mill will make a new market for wool, and allow the farmer to raise sheep and diversify their farming somewhat.

THE LARGEST GRANGE. Houlton Grange has the reputation of being the largest of any in the world, having a membership of about one thousand. Notwithstanding the large membership, it is very strongly and closely organized, and carries on a big co-operative business, having a regular supply store and commanding a trade of \$75,000 a year. It buys and sells farm produce and groceries and machinery. The grange is very strong all through the Aroostook County, although the co-operative feature is not carried to such an extent elsewhere. Some of the small granges emphasize the social features and are equally as successful in their way.

CANADIANS IN AROOSTOOK. The extreme northern part of the county is quite different in character, being inhabited largely by French Americans who are descendants of French Canadians emigrating from Canada long ago. These were the emigrants who formed the subject of the poem "Evangeline."

Many of them declined to stay in their allotted quarters in Canada but moved away as far as possible from the hated British rule. They took up several townships in northern Maine, including Fort Kent, Van Buren, Madawaska, Grand Isle and other places. They are engaged in raising potatoes as a specialty and in general farming. Scattered among these farmers are a number of Yankee Americans, who are among the most successful in the community, and, as a rule, speak both English and Canadian French. Some of these farmers close to the Canadian line have kept in touch with the emigrant stations and are testing the market, such as military milking and the dry raising method for poultry, improved incubators, new hives for bees, and the like.

THE FUTURE OF TRAIN MEETINGS. Will the farming train be run another year? Perhaps not in the Aroostook region, the present opinion of the managers being that a series of meetings like that of this year will produce lasting results and need not be repeated for several years.

In June there will be a similar series on the line of the Maine Central Railroad, under the management of the University of Maine, and conducted on much the same basis as the Aroostook train. It is the hope of the University people to organize the exhibit, putting on an exhibit car of its own, and giving plenty of room for new farmers. The train will have been started by the recent train will be taken into account in making arrangements for

other parts of New England. Yet at this price buyers are plenty because, judging from the success of the past few years, they expect to get for the farm out of their profits in a few years. Some who have gone into this purpose have come to regret it because of trying to do too large a business without much capital, but for those who have proceeded carefully the results have usually been favorable. One farmer bought and paid for a \$12,000 farm in six years.

At Fort Fairfield one of the best known potato growers is F. H. Reed, who took some of them on the party out to see his farm. It is a model place, in excellent condition, and farmed according to the best methods in this progressive region. Some years ago Mr. Reed won a prize in a well-known potato contest, raising over 745 bushels on a measured acre. The difference between this record and the average yield of the county at about 175 bushels suggests that the possibilities of the potato crop are not even yet fully developed here.

## THE AVERAGE YIELD.

The average yield of potatoes varies in different parts of the county. Some of the most successful growers place the figure as high as three hundred bushels, but the actual average of the farmers the county through is much less, just as the dairy average of the State is far below that of the best dairy farms. The actual average could not be placed above seventy barrels per acre, or say 175 bushels.

## SEED POTATOES.

A leading outlet for the potatoes is the seed trade, which is increasing year by year, and is by no means limited to New England, but includes all sections of the country, especially the South. Large quantities also go to Cuba and Bermuda. For the South and Bermuda trade the Bliss Triumph is the favorite kind. Potatoes grown from this seed which reach us in the winter are called Bermuda, but the best and most of them are grown from Maine Bliss Triumph seed. The shippers get \$1 a bushel more for seed potatoes than for the ordinary kind. This year on account of the high price the seed potatoes are sorted rather closely and include more small ones than is sometimes the case. Even a potato generally considered too small to sell for seed can be sold this year at a price somewhat below that of the standard seed article, so there is a demand for seed potatoes. There is considerable demand for the Irish Cobbler, a small variety, and exceedingly early and of very highest quality. This potato is excellent to grow for the early crop in all parts of New England and to supply the early trade, and it should be more extensively grown.

## THE BOOM IN PRICE OF FARM LAND.

Said a prominent real estate dealer in Houlton: "Farms well located and desirable in every way sell around \$100 per acre. Thus, among recent sales, I notice a seventy-acre farm for \$10,000 and one of 200 acres for \$25,000."

Back from the railroads, say fifteen miles, where a long haul is needed to bring the potatoes to market, the price is considerably lower. Perhaps a one hundred-acre farm could be bought at that distance for \$2200 or \$2300, where only one trip to market could be made daily. Some of these towns are sure to receive a boom from new railway construction which is projected. These railroads may not be built right away, but they are sure to come all through this rich territory. Just now the farmers hold rather fancy notions of value of land on account of the potato boom. A year or two of bad crops might change their ideas. Prices have gone up twenty to fifty per cent. in the last eight years, and most of the increase has been in the past two years. The farmers, as a class, are prosperous and able to have the best of everything. They buy the best machinery, equip their buildings and houses in the best manner, have steam heat, electric lights, telephones and all other things; in fact, about everything they want. Some of them close up late in the season and go South or to California. Last fall twenty or thirty went to California. They go in the fall and come back in the spring. After the crop is marketed the farmers go to town with big rolls of money and trade freely at the stores. The whole town lives on potatoes. The new woolen mill will make a new market for wool, and allow the farmer to raise sheep and diversify their farming somewhat.

THE GRASS MEADOWS IN MID-WORCESTER County are in fine prophetic order for a good hay crop and the peach trees are blooming full. Here at Westboro the Hero brothers, on two separate farms, have each two thousand trees that last season gave them 2500 baskets of fruit and promise to do as well this season. E. H. Hero also has five hundred peach trees that serve him well.

C. B. Maynard of South Berlin, who does a good business in market gardening, pushes poultry as a side issue. He says that the suggestion often printed, urging the use of charcoal in poultry food, is not needed as it should be. He claims it is a great tonic and disease preventive.

## The Pure Food Bill.

If any man can tell why the pure food bill is held up in the National House of Representatives let him speak of once. The Senate passed it by a large majority. The bill was made a special order for the tenth of April, but it is still resting in obscurity, with none apparently to do it reverence among the members of Congress.

This is a bill the passage of which is urgently desired and the delay now in reaching a conclusion concerning it has no excuse. We have been suffering for years from poisonous adulterations, which have, no doubt, shortened the lives of men, women and children, and when there is an opportunity to afford immediate relief from this state of things, a crowd of men, like the chancellor, edicts and vain, will not let the question by, and keep the matter in darkness, as if they were afraid to let in the light of day upon it.

The people should demand the passage of the bill directly by calling public meetings to insist upon protection.

## A Fitting Resting Place.

The remains of John Paul Jones, after long years of resting in an obscure grave, have finally found a permanent and appropriate abiding place in the memorial chapel at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

His burial place will be visited year after year by hundreds of people, who will be proud that to honor his memory, and will recall his heroic deeds upon the sea in behalf of this country of his adoption.

English historical writers have been too apt to sneer at John Paul Jones and to regard him in connection of the flight of the pinnas, and many of the Scotch people, from whom he sprung, have been slow to treat him with respect, though some American historians, have willingly acknowledged the services he performed in behalf of this country.

In the June issue, which will contain about two weeks, according to the present plan.

## Northern New York Notes.

Grass is starting very slowly, but as we have had no hot sunshine on grass lands while pools of water stood on them, we may yet have a good crop if June brings a sufficient rain. Plowing is well along, some farmers having considerable grain sown.

Potatoes receive considerable attention in northern New York, and considerable land is being fitted for that crop. Little attention has been given to spraying potatoes for blight heretofore, so far, but we expect it will be resorted to more this and coming seasons.

Dairying is receiving increased attention, this being the chief way of marketing our large hay crops and utilizing our excellent pastures. Several farmers are just beginning to let their cows go to pasture, of course feeding them night and morning at the barn.

I. L. SARDEN, Clinton County.

## Beans and Cabbages.

The most important point in bean culture, to my thinking, is the first hoeing. This must be done right to get even fair results. Without it there will be a very poor crop and tough, stringy pods, as well as small ones. The first hoeing, if done right, will in itself insure a fair crop.

This first hoeing must be done as soon as the beans are up. When they poke their noses above the ground and put forth their first green leaves they also carry the kernels of the old seed with them on the stalk. These kernels divide into the two halves just under the first leaves. These must be covered at once. This is all that the first hoeing calls for, and, indeed, all that is necessary in future hoeings is to keep these old seeds covered by soil. If these two kernels are not covered at the vine but are allowed to dry in the air, the vine will lose vigor. If the bean is to have only one hoeing, I would say by all means let it be this one. As a matter of fact, the bean should have at least one hoeing after this, preferably two, and always up to the lowest leaf. I must repeat the order for the first hoeing because it is so important. Cover the old bean kernels at once and keep them covered. If you do not you will lose half the vine can offer you in the way of healthy pods. I have seen beans go to waste because this hoeing was neglected. Also do not hoe beans when the vines are wet or damp. The pods will rust if you do. Hoe only when weather is dry and there is no dew on the vines.

In setting out young cabbage plants, set low so that the stalk is covered up to the lowest leaf. This also applies to lettuce and cauliflower. Cabbages should be hoed often and always so as to cover stalk up to lowest leaf. Some people even nip off a sickly low leaf and hoe above it.

Another "don't" relates to cucumbers. Don't plant them in a hill. Plant them level and hoe them high. I have kept on hoeing my cucumbers until they stood up like stalks three or four feet. Then they get ready to run. Over they tumble and run along the ground, but they are healthy plants for being hoed high and kept erect.

## Selecting Seed Corn.

Put several old newspapers in the bottom of a box and wet them. Then spread a white cloth with checkboard squares on top of the paper, each square being numbered. Now number the ears to correspond with the squares. Take three grains from each ear and place them on a cloth in the square bearing the same number as the ear. Put another cloth on top of the grains and leave the box in a warm place. In four or five days they will have sprouted. Now start with ear one. If all three of the grains from that ear have sprouted vigorously, it will do for seed, but if the grains fall to germinate or show weak and spindling sprouts, throw the ear aside, and so on for every ear. In this way, almost a perfect stand can be secured which means a much larger yield per acre.—F. B. MUMFORD.

## Peaches and Poultry.

The grass meadows in mid-Worcester County are in fine prophetic order for a good hay crop and the peach trees are blooming full. Here at Westboro the Hero brothers, on two separate farms, have each two thousand trees that last season gave them 2500 baskets of fruit and promise to do as well this season. E. H. Hero also has five hundred peach trees that serve him well. C. B. Maynard of South Berlin, who does a good business in market gardening, pushes poultry as a side issue. He says that the suggestion often printed, urging the use of charcoal in poultry food, is not needed as it should be. He claims it is a great tonic and disease preventive.

## The Pure Food Bill.

If any man can tell why the pure food bill is held up in the National House of Representatives let him speak of once. The Senate passed it by a large majority. The bill was made a special order for the tenth of April, but it is still resting in obscurity, with none apparently to do it reverence among the members of Congress.

This is a bill the passage of which is urgently desired and the delay now in reaching a conclusion concerning it has no excuse. We have been suffering for years from poisonous adulterations, which have, no doubt, shortened the lives of men, women and children, and when there is an opportunity to afford immediate relief from this state of things, a crowd of men, like the chancellor, edicts and vain, will not let the question by, and keep the matter in darkness, as if they were afraid to let in the light of day upon it.

The people should demand the passage of the bill directly by calling public meetings to insist upon protection.

## A Fitting Resting Place.

The remains of John Paul Jones, after long years of resting in an obscure grave, have finally found a permanent and appropriate abiding place in the memorial chapel at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

His burial place will be visited year after year by hundreds of people, who will be proud that to honor his memory, and will recall his heroic deeds upon the sea in behalf of this country of his adoption.

English historical writers have been too apt to sneer at John Paul Jones and to regard him in connection of the flight of the pinnas, and many of the Scotch people, from whom he sprung, have been slow to treat him with respect, though some American historians, have willingly acknowledged the services he performed in behalf of this country.

**JAGER PUMPS**  
It is not too large or too small for any purpose. It is made of brass and is very durable. It is the best pump for any purpose. It is the best pump for any purpose. It is the best pump for any purpose.

**Tuttle's Ellixir**  
Tuttle's Ellixir is a powerful medicine for all kinds of ailments. It is made of the finest ingredients and is very effective. It is the best medicine for any ailment. It is the best medicine for any ailment. It is the best medicine for any ailment.

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Berkhires are the best sheep for any purpose. They are very hardy and produce a lot of wool. They are the best sheep for any purpose. They are the best sheep for any purpose. They are the best sheep for any purpose.

**The ABINGTON STRAWBERRY**  
Is a berry you want. There are two other varieties nearly as good. Send for my descriptive Catalogue of choice S. B. plants. C. S. PRATT, Reading, Mass.

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Also the best strawberry plants. GEORGE F. WHEELER, Concord, Mass.

**The Belmont Shropshire Again at the Top**  
Champion Ram and Champion Sow. At International, Chicago, New York State Fair, Syracuse, and Canadian National, Toronto. Champion of the breed in all sections of the country. A record-breaking stock of 1800 quality of either sex for sale. Write for prices. J. C. MAHONEY, Farmington, Ontario, Canada.

the remembrances of his life will always awaken patriotic memories. His example ought to be a beacon light to the young mid-shipsman at Annapolis, and remind them that they are there to learn the art of seamanship in which he was such a master, though the conditions are now far different from those which existed when he was acquiring the knowledge that made him a supreme naval commander.

The advice that President Roosevelt gave to these young men at the reinstatement of the ashes of John Paul Jones should be followed, if they wish to wipe out the recollection of the brutal hanging in which so many of them recently indulged. They will find no cruelty attached to the name of the man whom the President eulogized.

—Mr. Harold Horner of Jenkintown, Pa., has been engaged to succeed the late James D. Wood as practical demonstrator in the course in bee farming, which has been a popular feature of the Massachusetts Agricultural College work for the last few years. The course will be open on Wednesday, May 23, and will continue two weeks. It includes theoretical as well as practical training.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America will be held at the Yates Hotel, Syracuse, N. Y., on Wednesday, June 6, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business which may legally come before it.

An examination of the figures of average monthly trade of the principal countries of the world shows that the United States now stands clearly at the head of the world's great exporting nations. The average monthly exportation from the United States in the nine months ending with March is shown by the Bureau of Statistics figures at \$147,399,773; the monthly average for the United Kingdom for the same period, \$148,974,919; the average for Germany during the twelve months ending with December, 1905, \$110,777,900; the monthly average from France for the twelve month period ending with February, \$72,750,409; that from Netherlands for the twelve months ending December, 1904, \$65,405,334; from European Russia for the twelve months ending December, 1904, \$43,000,800; British India, the average for the ten months ending with January, 1906, \$41,667,524; Canada, for the eight months ending February, 1906, \$20,603,753; China, monthly average for the twelve months ending December, 1904, \$13,930,142; and Japan, for the month of January, 1906, \$13,316,707.

Commerce of the United States with Argentina increased over four million dollars per annum, and is growing very rapidly. In the fiscal year 1905—the year ending June 30—the total was thirty-nine million dollars; in the calendar year 1905 the total was 454 million dollars, and in the eight months of the fiscal year 1906, for which the Bureau of Statistics has presented figures, the total of 341-4 millions seems to justify the prediction that for the full fiscal year, which ends June 30, will reach fifty million dollars.

The members of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers Association have been holding a demonstration of spraying apparatus at Horticultural Hall of the college under the management of the department of horticulture of that institution Thursday of this week.

Spanish financiers have brought out an ambitious new plan to build a railway in Africa joining a port on the Mediterranean near the Straits of Gibraltar with some port far down the coast, thus affording a new route of transportation in Africa, and, as they hope, affording a quicker route from Spain to the west coast of South America.

A feature of the rate bill at Washington at which little is heard in the newspapers, but which is of great interest to most people, is the clause which would bring the express companies and private car lines under the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The express companies are likely to make a hard fight, but so reasonable a clause appears for exempting the express companies, whose exactions are the most unreasonable of all transportation concerns, and whose operations affect about every citizen, at one time or another. Farmers who feel strongly on this subject would be doing good work to write their Senator and representatives urging the need of this provision in the pending bill.

—The Rev. Henry H. Hunt, one of the oldest teachers in South College, has received a notice of \$1000 from the Massachusetts State Board of Education for his services in the past year.







## Our Homes.

## The Workbox.

LADIES' KNITTED HOOD WITH HOBBLED

Materials—Four ounces of white German yarn for hood, two ounces of finest Saxony yarn for border, or split sephyr. Use two coarsest steel needles, or finest size of bone or rubber. Cast on with German 65 stitches, knit 5 rows plain.

\* 6th row—All purled, then knit 5 rows plain.

Repeat from (\*) 7 times.

54th row—Parl 23, remove the rest of stitches to a large safety pin, and leave there until the job is finished. (\*) Knit 5 rows plain.

60th row—All purled.

Repeat from (\*) 25 times. Bind off 4, drop next stitch right of needle, bind off 3, drop next, and soon until all are cast off.

Now return to the stitches on extra needles. Drop the first stitch next to the tab, bind off 4, drop off next, bind off 3, drop next, bind off 5, drop next, bind off 3, and there are 25 stitches left for other tab.

Take off the other 25 and work as before.

Put first row, then knit 5 rows plain, and finish like other.

The dropped stitches must be pulled so they will run down and form openwork spaces, through which run narrow ribbon. Gather up top of work and place on bow.

BORDER.

Take the Saxony and crochet 4 trebles in every ridge round hood.

2d row—Four trebles on second treble of previous row, repeat all around.

3d row—Six trebles on second treble; repeat all around.

4th row—Three chain, 1 double between first and second trebles (\*) 3 chain, 1 double between the third and fourth trebles; repeat from (\*).

Cross ends at back and tie in front.

EVA M. NILES.

If You Would be Good Looking.

Don't take a hot bath more than twice a week, and then only at night, just before going to bed.

Don't dry your face in a hurry. A quick rubbing coarsens and injures the skin.

Don't rub your face downward. It makes the cheeks hang down. The forehead should be rubbed from the centre to the temples.

Don't eat your meals in a hurry. If you do you will have indigestion and very probably a red nose.

Don't use soap on your face if it doesn't agree with your skin. Almond meal is an excellent substitute. Used with warm water it is not only cleansing but refining for the complexion.

Don't eat fat meats, highly spiced food or stimulating coffee if your face is inclined to redness. A careful diet and plenty of exercise should remedy it.

Don't go out for a five-mile walk one day and stay in the house all the next.

Don't get into the habit of blinking your eyes nervously. It is a strain on the eyes and renders the sight weak and irritable.

Keep the eyes shut for at least ten minutes in every hour if you find the habit growing on you, and bathe the lids in warm water.

Don't read until midnight. One hour's sleep before twelve is worth two after, to say nothing of the good effect on the eyes.

Don't neglect drinking water and plenty of it. Many a woman suffers from an ugly, blotched complexion who could remedy the trouble by drinking plenty of water and eating fresh fruit.

Don't sleep six or seven hours one night and ten or twelve the next. The amount of sleep needed depends on the individual, but there is nothing so conducive to health and good looks as enough sleep at regular hours.

Don't sleep with your window closed. Fresh air is absolutely necessary, and the temperature should be from 65° to 69°.

Dresses of Spider Web.

The worm is proverbially the last of created things to turn against the tyranny of those who seek to coerce it, and the silk-worm is evidently no exception to the rule, for it has for ages been patiently laboring to gratify human vanity. Not so the spider, however, whose beautiful silk has not yet been similarly applied, simply because that wily beast refuses to work to order. But a determined onslaught upon his pride and prejudice has been made in Madagascar, where a regular factory has been started to make silk dresses from spider web. The old difficulty has still to be faced, however, and time alone will show whether man or the spider is to be the victor. The spiders, which spin luxuriously in their native groves, silk or light or devour their young or otherwise amuse themselves brought to the factory; but they will not work except just occasionally when the mood happens to strike them. Then they sometimes spin for days at a time, and die of overwork. Their habits and customs are being carefully studied and if only they will do what is required of them they will be made as comfortable as circumstances will permit. Alas, for it is the prettiest little parlor; perhaps the spider may yet be induced to walk in and favor the proprietor with those silk dresses for which the world is still waiting.—Chamber's Journal.

The Dangerous Flies.

Yet, whatever the house fly may think about it, the time has come, according to many medical men, when the musca domestica, as they call the insect, must be banished from the abodes of men. It has been found to be not only a nuisance but a menace to man's health. Its hairy body carries both disease and death. Many epidemics which sweep over communities in the hot season have been traced to the fly. Having its origin in filth, it brings with it the bacteria which breed in filth. And as it moves about, now crawling over refuse, now over the food of the table, flying from the lips of the sick to the lips of the healthy, it is said to be more dangerous to modern society than were the wild beasts to primitive man.

An illustration of how the house fly may disseminate the germs of cholera was shown not long ago in a Manila prison. This disease had been causing the death of two to five convicts a day. Neither the water nor the foods were infected, as had been proven by careful examination. Finally, the surgeons suspected the flies, and accordingly they took the most drastic precautions to prevent them from reaching any infectious material in the prison. They also kept them from the foods. All the windows and doors were screened, and fly-paper was used in large quantities to catch occasional intruders. The epidemic promptly ended.

The high mortality among children in the congested districts of a city, where families are closely crowded together, where refuse accumulates and where food

is often kept in living rooms, is due to a large degree, so scientists now say, to the fly. Infant diseases chiefly prevail in the hot season, when the flies abound. Dr. J. T. C. Mack, in the Journal of the Royal Sanitary Institute, giving his experience as an English health officer, says that the fly is responsible for the death of many children because of polluting the milk which they drink. The fly is especially fond of milk, and plants bacteria in it, which breed rapidly. Milk is thus infected, not only in city homes, where it is exposed, but at farms before it is brought to the city. Practically all dairymen keep horses, and most times the horse stables are near the cow barns. In this way the flies breed in the stables fly almost directly to the milk. Unless special precautions are taken flies on a farm may also transfer typhoid germs to the milk from cesspools and earth vaults.

The fly is now feared almost as much by an army as the guns of an enemy. Unless a camp is properly drained, the quarters for the horses kept especially clean, and the sweepings from them removed a long way off, and, most of all, if the camp kitchens are not screened, and the sinks and food receptacles kept perfectly free from flies, fatal epidemics are likely to break out. The large death rate among the American troops in 1898 was due, it is now believed, to the fly. Surgeon General Starbuck realized the danger of flies feeding in camps, and as early as April he issued a circular in which he emphasized it. His instructions, however, were largely ignored, with the result that over twenty-one per cent of the soldiers in the encampment that summer had typhoid, and over eighty per cent of the deaths that year were from one cause.

The fly, however, should not be exterminated. It should simply be expelled from the abodes of men. The fly performs a vital function in nature. It is the link between death and life. It is a purifier of the earth and of the air. It breeds in dead or useless things, which it prepares for future generations of vegetable and animal life. It is a way, therefore, the fly which comes sailing into your dining-room and sips your preserves is only collecting a just debt, for flies long ago helped to prepare the soil for the sugar cane which furnished the sweets of that preserve.

The fly has indeed a right to disport itself in the clear, sweet air of midsummer, for the purity and sweetness of the atmosphere in which it floats are largely due to its work, loathsome as that work may seem.

Ninety-nine of every hundred flies that infest houses belong to the family which breeds in stable filth. It is found in nearly every part of the world. It cannot bite, for its mouth is formed only to suck up filth. It multiplies tremendously, and, according to Dr. Howard, one female fly lays an average of 120 eggs in a season. An egg hatches in eight hours and becomes a full-fledged fly in ten days, during five of which it is a maggot, eating ravenously and growing at such a rate that, were it of human size, it would be a foot taller every night.

The maggot turns into a pupa and sleeps for nearly five days before emerging with wings and flying off to the nearest kitchen. One unclean stable in this city will breed flies for houses three blocks away.

While the musca domestica predominates among the fly inhabitants of the ordinary American home, there are a few other representatives of this insect usually dwelling there also. There is the so-called stable fly, which looks exactly like the musca domestica, except that its mouth contains a sharp tongue with which it can administer a savage sting. Then there is the cluster fly, to be found in a house in spring or fall, with a dark colored, smooth abdomen and a sprinkling of yellowish hairs. It is not so active as the house fly, and particularly in the fall is very sluggish. "At such times," says Dr. Howard, "it may be picked up readily, and is very subject to the attacks of a fungous disease, which causes it to die on window panes surrounded by a whitish efflorescence."

In contrast with all these flies is the true bottle or blow fly, which lays its eggs in meat or decaying animal matter. It rarely enters the house, except to attack meat left unprotected in the warm air.

The restlessness and voraciousness of flies have long been attributed to a volatile temperament and gluttony. Yet scientists have recently learned that the squirming and gorging antics of the fly are things he should not always be blamed for. When a fly keeps running up and down your nose, it, perhaps, is not because he has any special grudge against your face, but because he is tormented by the red mite, which makes the fly fly.

This little parasite plants itself on the fly's body, where the legs are attached, and at the joints in the armor, as it were, it sucks the juices of the fly's flesh. And when a fly feeds internally on the edge of a saucer of honey, it is most likely because it has worms that eat all its eats. Worms have been taken out of flies which, when unrolled, were fully three inches long.—N. Y. Tribune.

Dish Washing.

"It's terribly piebald, I s'pose," said the girl with the dreamy eyes, balancing herself on the kitchen table top, "but I just love to wash dishes."

Her young married friend dropped the old glass dish she unluckily happened to be wiping at that instant, and surveyed her caller unheeded of broken bits of a wedding present strewn the floor. The girl looked sane, so she merely questioned, with a scornful emphasis: "You s'pose you must! Did you ever try it?"

"Seriously, Estelle, I mean it, but I don't do the deed as you do. See here, let me show you how to wash dishes scientifically and incidentally how to preserve the process from drudgery."

"Clear the table by piling all the plates of a size together before removing them, the cups, saucers, silver and glass, etc., in similar manner."

"Have ready a dishpan filled with hot, soapy water, a rinsing pan close beside it filled with clear boiling water and a wire pan for draining them."

"Wash the glass, drying it at once out of the suds and put it away. Then the silver, rinsing it, drying and putting it also out of the way."

"Then proceed with the cups, dipping each in the hot-water pan and turning it top downward in the rinsing pan. Pile the plates together against a cup and the other dishes around them."

"I forgot to say that I always have the dishes well cleared before putting them into the water, and if they are particularly greasy I pour hot water over them first, and always fill the bottles and other cooking utensils with water to stand. When the table dishes have all had their bath I turn out the water, rinse the dishpan and proceed to dry and put them away. They will be found to be neatly or quite dry so that this is a mere form. Then I am ready for the cooking dishes and the cooking dishes

are ready for me, as with fruit, hot, empty under a lamp and with the others except that I do not allow them to drain. Rather pile them up in the rinsing pan and when all are done, dishpan put away, pour hot water over them and dry them with their own towel at once."

"Huh!" said the married woman who had to wash her own dishes because her first was too tiny for both herself and a maid. "I don't see that that's very different from the way my body and everybody else does. Don't bother me with your scientific dish washing, and don't tell me that you ever did anything so practical as to wash dishes in all your life."

But she had and she was right. Even dish washing may be made at least less of an irksome task by following the general advice of the "girl with the violet eyes" and the specific suggestions contained in the following "Code of the Dish-washer."

1. Invest in plenty of hot water, if you have to build up a fire and wait for the water to heat.

2. Use white soap only. It is better for the dishes and infinitely better for the hands.

3. Use a handkerchief, if you will otherwise you must spend some time with the hands or they will soon become hard and unsightly.

4. Don't bother with cracked or nicked cups. You are likely to cut your hands with them. Throw them away.

5. Set about the task with light heart, willing hand and pleasant thoughts, and it's not you'll find, so hard, long, nor disagreeable a task as it seems.

6. Piebald or not in these days of troublesome servants and the more troublesome lack of them, any housewife is liable to be called upon to "wash dishes," and she may as well make the best of it.—N. Y. Mail.

Sugar Diseases.

For a long time it has been noticed that diabetes is increasing very rapidly. According to the rate of increase during the ten years between 1890 and 1900, diabetes will be, by 1920, seventeen times as frequent as it is now; that is, if it continues to increase at the same rate. Without doubt, one cause of diabetes is the excessive use of cane-sugar. Observing physicians also attribute to the use of cane-sugar the increasing prevalence of rheumatism, gout, and other uric-acid disorders.

The blood is overwhelmed with saccharin substances so that its power to remove and destroy the wastes of the body is diminished. The present use of cane-sugar in the United States amounts to seventy-five pounds per head annually, and the consumption of sugar is increasing at the rate of a little more than two pounds per head annually.

Experiments made on the German army have shown that the free use of sugar produces gastric catarrh and indigestion. Gouty experiments with dogs have shown very clearly that cane-sugar is capable of producing gastric irritation and a great deal of disturbance when used in other than the very smallest quantities. A ten per cent. solution was found sufficient to produce serious disturbance. The fact that sugar has a high nutritive value has led many people, even physicians, to prescribe it freely even for invalids and children; but the nutritive value of an article is not a true measure of its value as a food.

Its digestibility affects upon the digestive organs and other tissues of the body must also be taken into account. Cane-sugar is probably responsible for more sickness and more deaths than any other one article of food. Its use should be as limited as possible.—Dr. Kellogg.

Foreign Matter in the Eye.

The eye is continually, despite its alert lids and shielding lashes, catching bits of dust or cinders. In general, a swift blink or two and the flow of extra water flushes these offending particles off in a tide of tears. Sometimes they are too large, or are too gritty, too adhesive to be got rid of so easily; and then one must be careful not to rub the eye. Removal must be effected cautiously. To search a friend's eye requires patience and a good light. It is the matter of one's own eye a mirror is also necessary. Holding the eyelids wide, the surface between them is first to be examined. Then the lower lid may be drawn down to expose its lining. Any particle can be removed by the finger tip or a soft handkerchief or a camel's hair pencil. Should nothing be found, and the irritation still persists, the cause evidently hides under the upper lid. Two courses are open. Either to push the lower lid up beneath the upper, which for that purpose is hid by its lashes or the eyeball—a maneuver which requires gentle handling.

By gripping the lashes firmly, the lid is drawn far down; then, while the finger tip or a small pencil or pen holder held across its upper part (say, half an inch from the edge) make a gentle pressure there, the lid, still managed by its lashes, is drawn up and off the ball. The patient should look down during the performance, and continue to do so until the cause of his discomfort has been removed. Any heat or pain that follows the removal of foreign matter in the eye may be relieved by laying cloths wrung out of ice-cold water over the eye. When any hard body is discovered under the lid, the clear part, or cornea, of the eye, interference is inadvisable; a doctor should see the case. Meanwhile, a few drops of olive or castor oil in the eye and a bandage over it will soothe the pain.—Health.

Domestic Hints.

A TASTY CRISP FOR AN INVALID.

Trim away every particle of fat from a neck or loin chop, meat a piece of butter on a plate, sprinkle the chop with pepper and salt; dip both sides of the butter, and sprinkle a little lemon juice over the top, leaving it in the butter for at least two hours. Put the pork of an egg on a plate, with a teaspoonful of grated cheese. Mix it together, and make the chop freely with the mix.

Have ready some boiling dripping in a frying-pan, lay in the chop, and let it cook thoroughly, first on one side, and then on the other; it will take quite six minutes to cook, the fat being kept boiling the whole of the time. Drain it on a piece of clean paper, and serve on a little mound of nicely mashed potato, as hot as possible.

A RAIN SIDDING.

Place for luncheon in this extreme of cold boiled meat. Chop enough meat to fill a coffee cup and add two tablespoonfuls of grated cheese, a little cayenne pepper and two tablespoonfuls of cream. Fry rounds of bread in butter and spread over the ham mixture. Grate cheese over the top and brown in a hot oven.

SCALLOPS COQUILLADES.

These are delicious served with roast beef. Peel the scallops, remove the scales and wash under tender. Peel and slice three large onions and boil in a separate dish until tender. Cover the bottom of a baking dish with a good white sauce, sprinkle with breadcrumbs, grate over them a sprinkling of cheese, repeating with a layer of scallops, and a few bits of butter, then a layer of onions, another layer of the sauce, the breadcrumbs, and so on until the dish is full with a layer of breadcrumbs, bits of butter

and scattering of cheese on top. Bake about twenty minutes in a hot oven.

COLESLY SWEET.

Cover two cups of coleslaw with hot water, and pour over it one pint of hot water. Add a few drops of onion, two sprigs of parsley, salt and pepper to suit the taste. Let it simmer for about three-quarters of an hour, then strain through a fine sieve, allowing the liquid to drain. Add the coleslaw, and mix thoroughly. Add to the coleslaw water two tablespoonfuls of gelatin softened in a quarter of a cup of cold water, and squeeze in the juice of one large lemon. Strain again into a large pitcher, and add a teaspoonful of sugar. Let it stand in cold water. It should form a layer on each dish. When cold and thoroughly hardened, cut it into small squares and serve with cream.

STRAWBERRY PARFAIT.

Cream together the yolks of four eggs and one-half cupful of sugar, add a teaspoonful of baking powder and a teaspoonful of vanilla. Beat the whites and add to the mixture, alternating with one-half cupful of farina. Cover with whipped cream and sweetened strawberries.

Hints to Housekeepers.

Milk restores the taste which has become vitiated by constant tasting of different foods. After much tasting the cook would do well to take a drink of milk, and thus restore the accuracy of her palate.

There is nothing more soothing in a case of nervous restlessness than a hot salt water bath just before retiring.

If you have a jardiniere of ferns be sure to give them plenty of water. A fern that has been thoroughly dry once or twice is practically ruined; at least it will never have the same old strength again.

An easy way to keep the silver bright is to immerse in sour milk for a time. Wash and polish.

It is a fact to have sofa pillows combine as many shades of one color as possible without introducing a foreign tint. Various shades of red which harmonize well are excellent for a couch.

Puffiness under the eyes can sometimes be helped by the following massage treatment: Use both hands, place the finger-tips directly beneath the eyes, press gently around the outer corners and upward, following the contour of the eye. Try this movement fifty times a day.

If the cheeks are hollow it is because the muscles have become weak. To strengthen them, wet with cold water and rub gently and thoroughly round and round with a soft Turkish towel.

A "nerve" pillow is something which physicians are said to recommend, and which can easily be made at home. One needs only to gather up a quantity of dry sorbette herbs, such as hops and catnip leaves, bayberry and sweet fern, and add to them sweet grass, balm mint and many sweet smelling, sleepy things as one can think of. Dry and powder and mix all together.

Then fill your "nerve" pillow with the summer-wool matelot pattern thus formed. Stuff the pillow with down or cotton batting, or feather, and either scatter the powder thickly over the filling, or, what is better, make flat sachet bags and fasten them securely to the inner seams of the pillow.

If one uses a wet chamamo skin for dusting furniture a furniture polish will not be needed. Take a soft chamamo skin from ten to sixteen inches square, wet in warm water—do not use hot—wring out as dry as possible. Use same as duster. It will remove dust and finger marks and restore the natural brightness of the furniture.

To remove stains from white enamel wear put a small piece of potash in the enamel, fill it with water and let it stand for a short time. Then pour out the water, wash, and all the stains will disappear.

FROM FACTORY TO USER.

A Great Variety of Carriage Manufacturers and Sold at Reasonable Prices. One may believe, after observing for years the carriages that have passed him on city streets and villages and country roads, that he is familiar with all varieties and styles, but when he looks over the 366 pages of the Elkhart Carriage and

Harmon Manufacturing Company's catalogue, No. 87, for 1906, that he has been woefully ignorant. There is only one sort of light vehicle not found, and that is the cheaply made car. Nevertheless, all are cheap to the purchaser, from the light top buggy to the fine cabriolet and the heavy touring car for the Elkhart Carriage Company sells directly from the factory—the largest carriage and harness factory in the world, it is said—to the user, thus saving the profit usually made by the retailer, or the salary and expenses of the traveling salesman—all of which would be paid by the purchaser.

This has been the custom of the company since its organization thirty-three years ago, and that it has been favorably received by the public is evidenced by the great growth of its business.

The factory floor space at Elkhart, Ind., amounts to 25,000 square feet. Vehicles are fully warranted, and if anything gives out within two years from any imperfection in workmanship or material the company will make it good or furnish new, free of expense, to the customer. A two-year guarantee is sent by mail for every customer. If what is ordered is not satisfactory, the money is returned and the goods are returned, the company paying freight charges both ways; but it would be difficult for this to occur, for the illustrations and descriptions in the catalogue are clear beyond the possibility of misapprehension. The goods, when not paid for at the time the order is sent, are delivered at the nearest express station C. O. D. Carriages go in good shape to all parts of the United States, and safe delivery is guaranteed.

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# The Horse.

## Hay for Horses.

Timothy is considered the ideal hay for horses, but in order to give good satisfaction some kind of grain wants to be fed with it. This is imperative, even if the horses are idle; certainly so if the timothy has reached full maturity when out. Horses fed on it without grain will soon grow poor and show rough coats.

Timothy at best is very deficient in fattening properties and also in the nutrition for giving strength. It should, therefore, be cut, moistened and fed with a mixture of corn and oatmeal, these being proportioned according to the amount of work required of the horses. Instead of feeding entire timothy hay, however, it is better to mix some clover with it and leave out the corn but not the oatmeal; while if all clover is given it is not necessary, during idle periods, to feed any grain at all.

It is a mistaken notion thinking clover hay is unfit food for horses. They relish it equal to oats, and properly fed it does them just as much good. What is more detrimental than the hay itself is to allow them to eat too much of it; then hard work or fast driving will cause the gorged stomach to press against the lungs.

To be sure, there is always more or less dust in clover hay. Owing to its being highly nitrogenous, whereby it heats too much and some of it is burned, this cannot be helped. Yet the danger of cough and "heaves" thus incurred can be avoided simply by wetting the hay before it is fed. Cut, moistened and sprinkled with meal, it may be given even to a wind-broken horse with impunity.

FRED. O. SIBLEY.

## Otago County, N. Y.

### Breeders' Notes.

Breeders of light-harness horses are often advised to breed to a fixed type. Writers who give such advice always fail to mention what that fixed type may be. What family of trotters is there in which the type has been fixed? Is there not a variation in the type of the most successful of thoroughbred race winners?

The grain ration of oats and dillies that have been liberally fed during the past winter should be continued for several weeks after they have been turned to grass. Unless this is done they will become thin in flesh and their growth will be checked, a condition which should not be permitted.

The small breeder of trotting stock in order to achieve success and make his breeding ventures profitable must not only breed from individuals of fashionable families, but he must also be careful to breed from the most successful speed-perpetuating individuals of those families. The more closely he adheres to this line of breeding the greater will be his profits.

Young horse stock should not be permitted to remain out of doors nights until the sun has dried and warmed the surface of the earth. Many a fatal case of influenza has resulted from allowing young horses, that were accustomed to warm stables and dry stalls, to lie on the cold, damp ground in early spring.

The small breeder who is overstocked with horses should never refuse a fair offer for such animals as he has decided to sell. Cost of keeping and risk of injury from accidents are items that should not be overlooked by the man who desires to make the breeding of horses profitable.

Coles which are to be exhibited in the show ring should be trained to be led by the side or driven ahead of a pony. A second-class colt, well educated and well shown, will beat a first-class one every time that is poorly shown before the judges when competing in the ring. This was brought vividly to mind when Mr. Peter B. Bradley's elegant colt, Border Knight, was shown against Glenwood M. (3:07) at the recent horse show on the 20th inst. The young man who showed Border Knight is an excellent sprinter. He displayed remarkable energy, in fact, more than the occasion required, as was remarked by several horsemen at the ring-side who admired the colt. While they sympathized with the runner they condemned the use of the whip and regretted that this promising colt of the Eleanore Wilkes and Pilot Medium families could not have been shown by the side of a pony—Horse Breeder.

### Butter in Moderate Supply.

Demand and supply remain fairly well balanced, but the situation is a little changed from that of last week. Prices averaged nearly one-half cent higher. There is a steady, fairly active market and an ample supply, although there is no large surplus to give trouble as yet. The backward condition of the pastures has helped to keep down the make, and thus exerted a favorable influence on the situation.

Even the lower grades sell better than usual at this time of year, because the amount of excess as is usual after the opening of the pasture season. Dairy butter is dull and slow sale, but holds its price well. Box and print goods continue plenty and not wanted, the price commanding no premium above tub lots. For some time past the box and print goods have been the drug on the market, although the season is at hand when they should be wanted by the trade.

The Produce Exchange reminds Boston dealers that the national law against adulterated butter has been found to include butter containing sixteen per cent. or more of water, and such butter is subject to the same tax as for colored oil, namely, ten cents a pound. This tax would, of course, prevent the sale of such butter, and the restriction is likely to be strictly enforced here as in other cities. It applies to all kinds and grades of creamery, dairy, imitation and factory butters.

At New York buyers were on hand early this week and the demand developed considerable force, but there was a great deal more stock available than is indicated by the reported figures. From present advice there will be quite an increase in the week's receipts, and this tends to make a more conservative feeling. There has been difficulty in buying fancy creamery at the official quotation to one-half cent premium in some instances, but 21 cents is a pretty full wholesale price for strictly fancy quality. Some of the butter showed grass quality, but the first run is usually not very fine and buyers objected to quite a good many of the shipments. At the same time the average quality of the product is so much better than it was a week or ten days ago that the best trade are being supplied with less difficulty than heretofore. Medium to good grades work out fairly in about the range of former prices. Old creamery is having slow sale in range of 14 to 16 cents. New York State dairy in light

receipt for the day, but it does not seem probable that 20 cents could be exceeded.

The cheese markets of the country are somewhat firmer, the general tendency being upward in face of the moderate offerings, but only a fair demand. The price in Boston shows scarcely any rise, but Western markets and those of Canada mark fractional advances. The stock of old cheese is pretty nearly gone and there is hardly enough in the market to establish quotations, new cheese having the field from now on.

At New York receipts of new cheese have been comparatively moderate, but invoices naturally show some increase in supplies to come during the last of the week, though not as much as had been expected, owing to the cold weather of last week. So much of the trade has now turned to new cheese that a good demand is expected for small sizes, and holders inclined to talk steady on the basis of 9 cents for best lots, and no change was made in the official range of quotations. Quality is still irregular, and leaving fine cheese it is merely a matter of negotiation between buyers and sellers on the undersides. The proportion of large new in the receipts continues moderate, and with higher country cost the feeling is firmer than on small, though nothing done as yet to test the market, and prices nominally unchanged. Old cheese is in light remaining stock, but trading is moderate, and holders willing to clean up at earlier prices than lately asked. New skims continue plenty, and allow for all grades excepting finest light skims.

Latest cable advice to George A. Cochrane, from the principal markets of Great Britain, give better markets as fairly steady, holders having the advantage, and have been enabled to obtain slight advances on some grades. Finest grades: Danish 23 to 24 cents, Irish 21 1/2 to 22 cents, New Zealand 21 to 22 cents, Australian and Argentine 20 to 21 cents, Russian 20 to 21 cents, some American creamery selling at 17 to 18 cents, ladies 15 to 16 cents, renovated continues unsalable. Cheese markets are the turn easier. Finest American and Canadian white Seymours 13 to 14 cents, colored 12 1/2 to 14 cents. Fodder cheese continues to sell as landed from 11 1/2 to 12 1/2 cents.

### Quiet Apple Trade.

The apple market is dull, with demand and supply both light, although demand would be good were it not for the high prices. Consumers are able to obtain substitutes like rhubarb, Southern strawberries and various tropical fruits at lower prices, and are not driven to apples as the only fruit diet. Very good strawberries have been selling at 10 cents per quart by the crate. Reports are that the strawberry blossoms in some Northern localities were injured by last week's freeze. The Southern crop at least seems to be ample. A trainload of thirteen hundred crates arrived from Virginia Wednesday.

### Potatoes Slightly Lower.

The potato situation has been growing easier the past fortnight. The improved prices brought shipments both from Western potato districts and from Europe. The potatoes from Europe have been the main factor in pushing down the price, but shipments from the Lake districts show there are still a good many potatoes remaining.

The Maine shippers, being nearest the market, got their potatoes down first and obtained the full benefit of the best of the high prices. It is thought that only from one to three per cent. of the crop now remains in Maine. Shippers at Maine points are paying growers about \$1.75 a barrel, which is somewhat below the best figures obtained a few weeks ago. In certain Western markets there is quite a glut caused by increased shipments both from the North and South. The Southern crop is now becoming quite a factor as the season gradually works North. The biggest part of the Florida crop has been marketed, but the Carolinas are shipping quite heavily, as well as Texas and Bermuda. While the prices of these potatoes are much higher than that of Northern stock, and do not directly compete with them, yet they seem to take the edge off the demand for old stock.

So reason appears to change the opinion expressed in these columns of late that growers or holders are taking the safe side to close out at around \$2 per barrel. No final slump is anticipated, but there is little to encourage waiting for high prices.

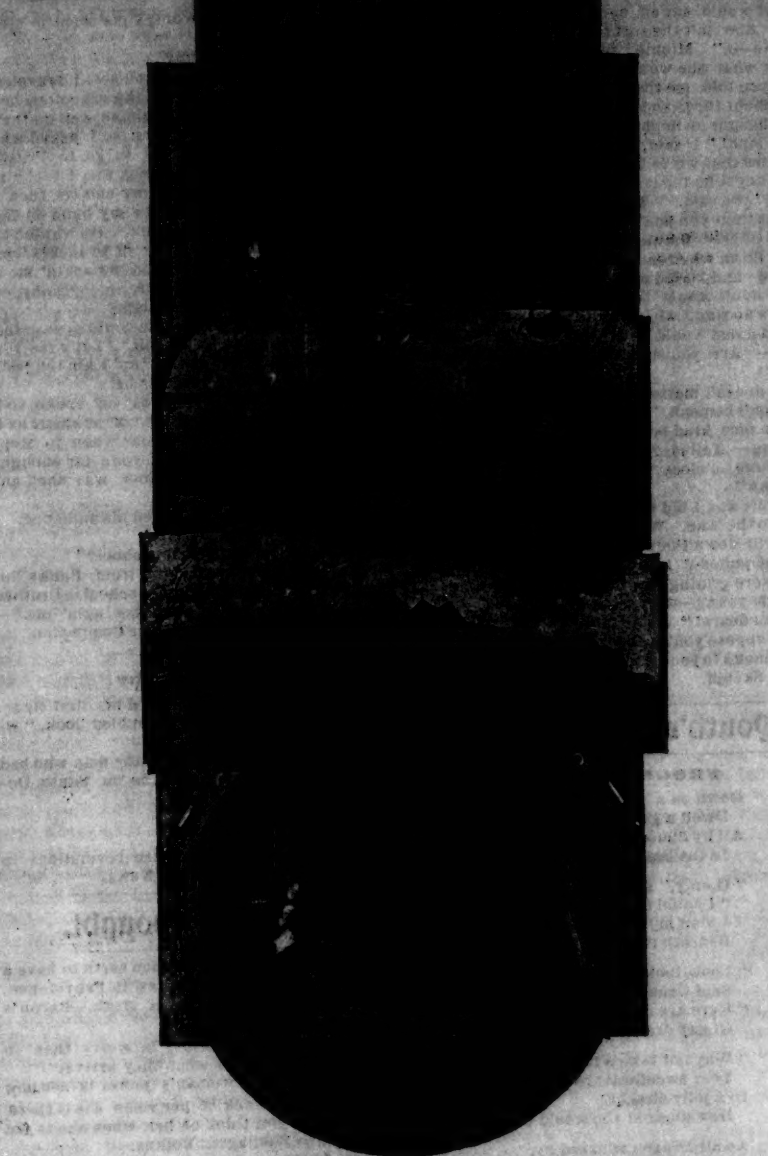
Carter & Corey, the Presque Isle potato dealers, are to be located at Jellison, the terminus of the new division of the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad. The building will be 1500 feet long, will cover four acres and will hold 400,000 barrels. This building will be equipped with modern devices for handling the stock and loading it on the vessels. The building will be used largely for storing seed potatoes, which will be shipped direct to points in the North.

### The Banana Trust Scored.

The banana trust is said to be getting alarmed over the various prosecutions of trusts and is, for the time being, at least, giving up some of its monopoly in the trade, allowing its competitors to make sales without opposition. This compromise has been one of the most complete and exacting in the country and has been in the enjoyment of almost complete control of the banana business.

### Egg Market Satisfactory to Producers.

The storage of eggs in New York seems likely to reach high prices, notwithstanding the rather steep prices which the buyers are obliged to pay. Arrivals continue large and prices hold remarkably well because of the big demand. It seems there never was a season when people were using eggs so freely, and of the big arrivals only a very limited per cent. goes into storage for future use, the moderate per cent. is in itself a large amount, and storage has already reached in some cities two-thirds or three-fourths the amount put away last year. These eggs are practically all of the May packing. April stored eggs were a minus quantity, what few there were put away having been taken out again because of the excellent prices for the current trade. These May eggs, however, are of the April quality, being in excellent condition, because of the cool weather which has prevailed so far during the month. We have had almost an April in May. The outcome of it all is hard to predict. If storage men put away as many eggs in May and June as in April, May and June of last year, and pay for them the big prices now ruling, another profitable season for the storage men may result. For the farmer and poultryman the situation is satisfactory. Although his stocks are producing heavily the market does not seem to be overstocked, but between the consumer and the storage man the producer is taken care of at excellent prices. It is uncertain how long this condition of things



THE EARLY TROUT AND BASS FISHING WILL SOON COMMENCE AT THE BEGRADE LAKES. Reached via Maine Central R. R.

will last and a slump would not be surprising with the first spell of continued warm weather, which would injure the distant shipments and render the storage men disinclined to buy. So far the price has held up remarkably well, showing a market of wonderful capacity for consuming this article of diet.

Egg storage in Boston is much smaller in proportion than in some other cities. Less than half of last year's figures so far.

### Fertilizer Trade Steady.

The fertilizer trade is quieting down with the busy season well-nigh over. Nitrate of soda remains firm at around \$2.30 per hundred in wholesale lots. Some of the retailers in various parts of the country are charging as high as \$3 per one hundred, which is entirely unnecessary, as users can buy of the large concerns for around \$2.50 even in as small lots as two hundred pound bags. Considerable cottonseed meal is sold by the fertilizer people, the material being useful for mixing home-made fertilizers to prevent caking. In other sections tankage is used for this purpose. High grade sulphate of potash sells at around \$2.50 and marlate at \$1.90. Ground bone is \$2.25 and the various raw ground phosphates range from \$4.75 to \$5.35 according to grade.

### A Wasting Set of Fruit Growers.

The Georgia peach growers at their recent meeting conducted themselves in a businesslike way to remedy the drawbacks to the fruit business in that section. They are to petition the Secretary of Agriculture for \$20,000 to invest in local culture of the export trade of peaches. A man was appointed to size up the peach crop in each county. They secured the services of an expert to advise them on the diseases of trees, and they got into touch with the railroads and car lines to obtain promise of ample supply of cars for quick service. They took action on the transportation route for carrying the fruit North, and as they have control of about three-fourths of the shipments, were able to secure special arrangements. They also voted money to prosecute coming under the Interstate Commerce Law in order to secure a reduction of rates to Eastern and Northern markets.

Inspectors are appointed to look after operations at the icing stations of the railroads and watch the dealers at the principal markets. These proceedings show that the Georgia growers are among the most enterprising in the country, and able to pull together in a very efficient way. The Georgia peach crop this year is estimated at about 4000 cars.

### Poultry Trade Fairly Steady.

The local poultry market shows no great change. Choice broilers hold at 30 cents, nearby fowls at 16 cents and ducks 15 to 17 cents. Squab broilers hold at about the same price as last week, but dealers are more particular to have the size right. Quite a number of extremely small chickens have been shipped to market. Dealers do not like to handle anything below one pound weight. The regular line of spring chickens sell at live weight at 20 to 25 cents.

At New York demand for fowls, turkeys, is slow, though holders seem inclined to hold steady for fancy grades. Fresh Western broilers sell fairly when choice at about steady prices. Nearby broilers show some for strictly fancy grades. Long Island and other nearby spring ducks are fairly plenty and selling slowly at weaker prices. Turkeys slow. From poultry continues plenty and slow for most all grades excepting fancy-roasting chickens.

With the approach of warm weather, the production is falling off a little, especially in the Southern regions and on farms where a good many old fowls are kept. Accordingly these old fowls are being put on the market to a greater extent, but no longer so profitable for eggs, and this class of stock is increasing in the market, leaving a weaker tendency, prices and demand being only moderate. Live fowls, however, still range around 16 cents, which is pretty an excellent price, and even more with fowls usually obtained of this time of year. An interesting feature of the poultry market is the large demand of broiler stock from the West which has been exported to Europe. The poultry trade with Europe is increasing, more and more attention. Canadian shipments are doing a big business in this way. Canadian poultry is not quite the same as the

most popular in the English market, where white fleshed, white-skinned carcasses are preferred, but prices obtained by exporters of late indicate that the market over there will take yellow-skinned stock with more facility than in former years.

### Ice Will Be in Light Supply.

The situation is causing worry to a variety of producers. Down South the berry people are worrying over the high price and scarcity, and wondering how they will get their stock to market. The railway people have not been able to equip their refrigerator cars with a sufficient quantity and injury to the products in the Carolinas and northward has already occurred. Even in the Northern States ice is liable to be more or less scarce and high. Milk producers and others who depend on the local ice merchants will be obliged to seek quite a heavy bill of expense.

### The Vegetable Markets.

Asparagus continues in ample supply and prices well maintained. The native stock is gradually crowding out the Southern shipments which are not equal to native either in appearance or condition, except at the first of the season when the New Jersey asparagus has the advantage of a more advanced condition of usually fairly cool weather during the shipments. The range of vegetables from the South is increasing and the tendency is to crowd down the price of Northern hot-house products a little from week to week, although so far the range of quotations has held up well. Hot-house products in the quotations, of course, include the vegetables from hot-beds and forcing frames. Peas from the South are now quite plenty, but most of them of poor quality, not well filled out. String beans continue moderately plenty and selling low. Onions from the South are plenty and low. Texas grades bring about \$1.25. Potatoes continue to sell between 75 and 80 cents and new potatoes at \$4.50 to \$5 for No. 1 grades. These are from Florida for the most part, with some shipments from Cuba and Texas. Sweet potatoes are dull of sale at around \$1.75 per barrel, very close to the price of white potatoes.

The New York market for new potatoes was fairly active and steady at about late prices; best marks of Florida Rose command \$5 to \$5.25, with \$5 top for South Carolina and Georgia, but very few from Charleston show quality to exceed \$4 to \$4.50. Old potatoes weak, and prices favoring buyers except Maine stock, which is in light supply and held steady. Sweet potatoes continue dull and weak. Onions in excessive supply and very weak at the lower figures quoted. Asparagus 50 to 75 cents lower under liberal offerings. Beets and carrots steady. Cabbages not a good outlet at all late prices. Cucumbers are in good demand at steady prices. Southern peas in light receipt and slightly firmer. String beans sell higher for fancy, but poor stock dragging at low figures. Tomatoes in liberal supply and weak.

### Crop Conditions.

The situation with regard to grain crops remains favorable as a whole, although there is some little damage reported to the winter wheat in limited localities and the dry weather in parts of the central West and Southwest is not favorable to the progress either of winter or spring wheat, but it is not thought the final results will be much impaired unless dry weather continues considerably longer. The corn planted to spring wheat is reported somewhat increased over last year. Corn planting is about half done in the corn belt, reaching up to central Kansas. Grain of all kinds is rather firm in price on account of the uncertainty always prevailing at this season. Now is the time when speculators, news agencies, etc., bring out crop news, most of which are usually unfounded.

The intensity of the season and the tendency to dry weather is most parts of the Southern States have been rather unfavorable for hay and pasturage, both of which are backward. The freezing weather of last week was quite extensive in area and caused damage to truck crops of the Southwest, also more or less damage to fruit blossoms and some of the early vegetables in the West. Early reports tend to show that the crop is not very extensive in this crop. The extent of the damage to the apple crop in the West is not yet

fully ascertained and reports are conflicting. Apparently there will be some loss by freezing in the great orchards of Missouri and adjoining parts of the Southwest.

### Produce Notes.

A large berry farm at Chadbourn, N. C., produces a crop of about 16,000 crates of strawberries on 100 acres, and employs 800 persons during the busy season. Many of these berries come to the Boston market.

The English market consumes about 150,000 bushels of apples a week, all at this season from the United States and Canada. The highest priced apples now selling in England are from Oregon, bringing the best lots \$3.50 a bushel box. Other Pacific coast apples range from \$3 to \$2.50 a box. Barrels from the eastern United States are selling from \$5.30 to \$6.75 per barrel. Runnets are now bringing high prices in England, being a favorite variety with consumers. Some rates as high as \$6.75 a barrel.

One of the farm potato houses at Caribon has a capacity of eight thousand barrels. These cellars, when well constructed, cost several thousand dollars, and are permanent features of the farm. Equipped with a good storage house, a farmer is independent of the potato speculators and can sell or hold his crop as he sees fit. Sometimes holding the potatoes is a very profitable operation. Other years the reverse is the case.

Egg receipts have fallen off somewhat from the big totals of last week, but are still in ample quantity to meet demand. Trade is now only moderately active. Although Western eggs packed for cold storage are readily bought at 18 to 19 cents. These are the best of the receipts outside the New England stock and fancy henery.

The demand for maple sugar continues light, although supplies are not excessive, and the market seems to be improving in general condition. Prices hold about the same for all grades.

Some grades of field beans are a little lower this week on account of the very light demand and approach of the dull season.

Top quotations for fresh beef remain 18 cents and demand moderate. Fall lambs are reduced in supply and selling a little higher. Choice small lambs bring 11 cents. Spring lambs are more plenty and prices scarcely maintained. The veal situation is a little improved, arrivals not being quite so large and demand holding good. The top price is 10 cents. Dealers advise shippers not to send veals wrapped in skins so late in the season and to make a separate package of the pinheads and sweatbands.

The immense apple orchards of Missouri fruit sections are reported a wonderful sight, and worth a visit to see them in bloom. The Hazelnut orchards include more than two thousand bearing trees, extending for two or three miles in a direction, a mass of pink and white blossoms. This orchard is thought to be the largest collection of bearing apple trees anywhere. But it is only one of numerous large orchards in that section. Missouri has become the leading apple State for as many years as there is record. The product of the tree is far less than that of New York and other States.

A recent bulletin from the Department of Agriculture relates the habits and life history of the codling moth and advises spraying with paris green and Scheele's green, one pound; lime, three pounds; to 100 gallons of water. The spray kills the young worms before they enter the fruit. They get the poison while feeding on the leaves and on the stem and sides of the fruit.

The American Farm Products Company, an outgrowth of the American Butter Refining Company, has acquired better refining plants which are manufacturing process butter at the rate of twenty million pounds annually.

Under a ruling from Ottawa that no further figures are obtainable respecting exports from the port of Montreal, strenuous objection is made by the board of trade officers and there may be a revision of the

ruling. The trouble arises over the fact that the cheese and butter exporters object to having their business made public, and that in obliging them the Government has made a sweeping change.

A record sale of apples was made at Covent Garden, London, England, last week, when over seven thousand cases and 4500 barrels of American fruit came under the hammer one morning. The aggregate price realized was \$30,000, and the record price for one barrel was \$10.

### The New Hampshire Granges.

Belknap County Farmers' meeting at Gilford found a solution to the farm help problem in farmers' organizations to procure better prices for products, thereby enabling the payment of better wages for help.

Canada has set the example of making one day in each week an arbor day, and beautifying the triangular park at High street. The unsightly stumps have been made into vine-covered rockeries, a smooth green lawn takes the place of the rubbish pile, and sixteen men and women will forever merit the "well done" of all future passers.

The commendable practice, made more feasible by the electric roads, of holding neighbors' nights, is very prevalent in southeastern New Hampshire, and will observe one May 25, when North Hampton will furnish the literary program.

Lenox, May 10, discussed the May topic of amending the game laws and, although the arguments in favor of the State paying for damage done by protected game animals were convincing, the defenders of the present law won a pathetic appeal and the result was a divided opinion. The readings, declamations and singing were followed by a social hour. Ladies' night will be observed May 26, when the maidens will conduct the business and make the literary program.

### George J. Fox.

George J. Fox, who has reported the live stock markets for the FLOUGHMAN for the past forty years, died Saturday, May 12, of pneumonia, at his home in Cambridge, after an illness of a week. Mr. Fox has been a reporter since 1860 and has been a member of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society for many years, and had a large acquaintance among those identified with the live stock interests of New England. During this time he never missed a single market day at either market. His standing was high among the dealers and his reports were considered extremely reliable and judicious. Mr. Fox was born in Fitchburg, April 21, 1836, and was the son of Dr. A. A. Fox of that city. The past forty years he has lived in New Cambridge. He leaves a widow and two daughters.

The number of acres under the plow this year in Maine will be slightly increased.—A. W. Gilman, Commissioner of Agriculture, Kennebec County, Me.

It is too big a trade for every farmer to learn to grow every kind of vegetable to perfection. Life is too short.—S. A. Shaw, Androscoggin County, Me.

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